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# TRAVELS

THROUGH

SOME PARTS OF

# GERMANY, POLAND, MOLDAVIA,

AND

# TURKEY.

By ADAM NEALE, M. D.

LATE PHYSICIAN TO THE BRITISH EMBASSY AT CONSTANTINOPLE,
PHYSICIAN TO THE FORCES,
AND MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.

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# PREFACE.

ALTHOUGH it has been querulously observed that few books disappoint their readers more than those containing the narrations of Travellers, yet the demand for such productions sufficiently evinces the good-will with which they are received by those whom a happier destiny enables "to live at home at ease," and to traverse the globe while sitting at their own fire-sides. Encouraged by this consideration, the Writer of the following pages ventures to commit them to the Press — not, however, without becoming solicitude as to their reception. Conscious of his want of power to communicate much either of pleasure or of information, he confides rather in the attractive nature of his subject, and the keenness of

public curiosity, than in the novelty of his details, or the vividness of his descriptions.

The first object of his Travels was neither entertainment nor instruction. But as accidental circumstances, connected with the exercise of his profession, made him acquainted with some new facts, not altogether uninteresting, he has conceived that they might be made to serve as speculative points to others, who, possessed of more leisure and erudition, may hereafter follow in the same track.

The field, though extensive, has hitherto received, comparatively speaking, little cultivation. The fairer regions of Greece and Italy, enriched with the monuments of antiquity, and endeared to every scholar by countless associations, will long — perhaps for ever, prove more alluring to the enlightened Traveller, than the sandy heaths of Germany, the swampy regions of Sarmatia, or the savage shores of the Euxine: these, however, are scenes among which the inquisitive man and the philanthropist, can collect remarks which may serve to elucidate the past history, or to improve the present condition of considerable portions of mankind. And without effecting, or attempting the removal of rooted prejudices and errors, the service

even of confirming received truths may be allowed to be important; nor can it ever be useless to show by fresh examples, that in all states the practice of Virtue constitutes the foundation of happiness; that simple manners are constantly attended with health, peace, and longevity; that the avaricious are not always rich, nor the ambitious secure; that the revolutions of empires are uniformly accelerated by the corruption of morals; and that the visitations of Providence are not the less to be dreaded because they have long been deferred

A. N.

EXETER, *Jan. 20th*, 1818.

## DIRECTIONS FOR THE BINDER TO PLACE THE PRINTS.


PLATE I. The Greek Reis to face the title page.

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# ERRATA.

Owing to the distance of the Author's residence from town, the following errors of the press have occurred, which the reader is requested to amend: —

PAGE 2, line 12, for "North," read "South."
14, 28, for "covered," read "coloured."
29, for "Strucasee," read "Struensee," and there and passim, for "Obstrites," read "Obotrites.
31, for "Gadesbach," read "Gadesbusch."
32, for "Mernburgh," read "Merseburg."
35, for "Swante-vil," read "Swante-vit," and, for "Russians," read "Rugians."
52, for "Count de la Masche," read "Count de la Marche."
91, for "Suranos," read "Serranos," (mountaineers).
113, line 25, for "that," read "those."
137, for "Marienpont," read "Marienpoul."
154, line 5 from bottom for "towns," read "downs."
167, after "England" insert "and Italy."
175, for "membranoses" read "membranous entrails."
185, for "practical" read "piratical."
199, for "also a black," read "a white."
202, for "attendant of Validè," read "intendant of the Validè."
217, line 8, after "victims," insert "and which."
219, for "and shall be less surprised," read "than be surprised."
247, for "Seicks," read "Peichs."
248, after "Lent," dele "and"; for "Eden" read "Edinburgh."
255, for "M. de Viscues," read "M. de Viames."
285, (Notes), for "Masuer," read "Magna."
286, for "Vestaphos," read "Vesta, Φῶς."

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# TRAVELS

THROUGH

# GERMANY, POLAND, MOLDAVIA, AND TURKEY.

## CHAPTER I.

*Heligoland. — Sicambri. — Temple of Phoseta. — Worship of* Herthus, *the Mother-Earth. — Husum. — Cimbri. — Embankments, their History and Construction. — Rendsburg, its Canal. — Convicts. — The Plague.*

With a north-west wind the passage from Harwich to Husum may be performed in eight-and-forty hours. — On the 19th of July, 1805, we had the good fortune to make that rapid voyage in the Ayrshire Post-Office Packet, commanded by Captain Hamilton. — On quitting the coast of Essex, the first objects we perceived were the look-out ships of the British squadron then blockading the Texel; and in the afternoon of the following day we came in sight of the high table Cliff of the island of Heligoland, situated about twenty-five miles from the mouth of the Elbe. — This island, though now the abode of only a few fishermen and pilots, was, in the 692d year of the Christian æra, a royal residence, being held by Radebol, king of the

Sicambri, or North Frisians, an uncivilized people, who, like the Algerines of the present day, subsisted by piracy and rapine. There seems to be good reason for believing that they were the descendants of the Cimbri, who, in the time of Marius, poured themselves down into Italy, after having ravaged Gaul. The Cimbri* inhabited Prussia, Hanover, Holstein, Jutland, and the adjacent islands; but, in consequence of the repeated inundations, and of the losses of territory which they suffered from the sea, as well as from the invasions of their northern enemies the Suevi (Swedes), they appear to have been frequently under the necessity of sending forth shoals of emigrants in search of new settlements in the North of Europe.

As the art of making embankments was to them unknown, those who remained in the Chersonesus of the Cimbri removed their habitations to the moors and uplands, and upon the island of Heligoland the highest spot on this coast they had fixed the royal residence, together with the temple of their great goddess Phoseta or Phosta, or as she is called by Tacitus *Herthus*, "the Mother Earth," the Veste or Cybele of the Romans, and the Ceres of the Greeks.[1] On reading the passage in Tacitus, descriptive of the rites with which the goddess Herthus was worshipped, and on comparing it with the corresponding descriptions in Ovid's Fasti, of the worship of the goddess-mother and the Eleusinian mysteries of Ceres, we cannot but be forcibly struck with the complete coincidence of these several solemnities. In all the three instances quoted, the procession of the image of the goddess veiled, and placed in a car drawn by two oxen, was followed by crowds of women shouting and invoking the

* Koum-beri, dwellers in the sands.

deity. The mysteries lasted three days, and during their celebration there was an entire cessation of all other public and private transactions. On the third day the image was carried in solemn procession to the brink of a lake, into which it was thrown by the Germans, and the goddess disappeared, not to return to the eyes of admiring mortals until the subsequent anniversary. At the Eleusinian mysteries, as well as at those of Cybele, the statues of the goddess were carried to the sea or a river to be washed, and after this lustration, were again deposited in their respective temples till the ensuing spring. These coincidences have, doubtless, been often remarked; but, I am not aware that any writer has particularly noticed the striking affinity of the ceremonies still observed in various parts of India, with those of Herthus, I allude to the worship of the Goddess Dearg or Dourg. Captain Turner in his embassy to Thibet, has described the Pooja of De-arg nearly in the same manner in which Tacitus has noticed that of the German Deity, and the account given by Monsieur de Grandpré, is still more circumstantial: "The Ganges has been held in the most pro-
"found veneration ever since De-arg, according to the re-
"ceived tradition, precipitated herself into it. She was a cele-
"brated legislatrix. In her advanced age, she descended into
"the Ganges, where she now dwells. In consequence of which,
"the supreme blessing of this life consists, in bathing in the
"river and drinking of its water, which has the virtue of purify-
"ing both soul and body. De-arg is held in the greatest vene-
"ration, her feast is celebrated annually in the month of Oc-
"tober, and lasts three days, when all is gaiety and mirth. Her
"image is inclosed in a small niche of clay, ornamented with
"flowers, bits of tinsel, and such like finery. During two days

" they pay her every respect and adoration, but on the third the " scene changes, they abuse her — call her — expose the naked " posteriors to her, loading her with all manner of curses; in " conclusion, they hoist the figure on their shoulders, and march " in procession to the banks of the Ganges, where, with hideous " yells and shouts, they cast her into the river, and abandon her " to the current." Few, I think, will be disposed to doubt that the De-arg of the Hindoos is the same deity with the *Herthus** of the ancient Germans; it remains to be shown that this worship extended from the banks of the Ganges to the western islands of Scotland, and to the banks of the Shannon in Ireland. Such was undoubtedly the fact. The island of St. Kilda, the most remote of the Hebrides, was called Hirth, or Hirt, or Hirtha. In the Philosophical Transactions for the year 1677, Sir Robert Moray has given a particular description of that island, which is not unlike Heligoland, in many particulars; and Mr. Walter Scott, in his admirable poem of the Lord of the Isles, has commemorated St. Kilda under its more ancient appellation of Hirt. Boswell in his journal of his and Dr. Johnson's voyage to the Hebrides, notices the ceremonies attending the worship of a divinity called Anaitis, identified as Herthus, and in an island, now remarkable for the seat of St. Peter's purgatory, the rites of De-arg were formerly celebrated. The mountain near Edinburgh, now called by corruption Arthur's seat, was, I suspect, formerly sacred to the worship of Herthus, the true appellation being *Herthus* or " Herthur seat," and the ruins of a chapel dedicated to St. Anthony, now occupy the place where the temple of the deity formerly stood, close to which was the sacred fountain, now

* Tacitus calls this divinity Herthum, but the proper name is *Herthur*.

known as St. Anthony's Well. In a word, wherever human research has yet extended, the worship of Herthus, the Mother-Earth, may be traced: that worship which replaced the knowledge of the true GOD, when, from the debasement of mankind after the deluge, the adoration of the real divinity, the CREATOR, was overpowered by superstition and error.

But to return to Heligoland. This island is at present little more than one mile in circumference. It consists of a perpendicular cliff one hundred and fifty feet high, with a plain on the top, on which are situated a church and village together with a light-house erected by the Merchants of Hamburg for the safe guidance of vessels entering the Elbe. At the foot of this cliff is a tract of low sand or downs, equal in extent to the cliff, containing a village of fishermen's huts and a small pier and roadstead. D'Anville states that this island was formerly many miles in extent, but that about the years 800 and 1300 of the Christian æra, great portions of the downs were swept away by the action either of high spring tides or by the concussion of earthquakes; and that as lately as 1649, much of the remaining beach was carried off by an inundation of the sea. The present inhabitants amount to about two thousand souls. The men gain their subsistence by fishing and pilotage, while the women tend the flocks of sheep and cows, and cultivate the soil, which produces little more than barley and oats. The communication between the cliff and the downs, is carried on by means of a broad wooden staircase fixed in the rock, which is red breccia. — There are three wells of fresh water, but scarcely a shrub or tree of any kind on the island; and turf, wood-fuel, and garden vegetables, are brought from Cuxhaven and Hamburg, in exchange for the fish with which the hardy Heligolanders supply these towns. Off the

island, running out to the south-east, is a low ledge of sunken rocks, upon which are affixed two buoys coloured *white* and *red*. It had been blowing a strong gale of wind some days previous to our arrival, and the mooring chains of the red buoy having given way, it had drifted off its proper station, so that had it not been for the shrewd sagacity of an old Danish pilot who accompanied us from Harwich, we must inevitably have gone on the rocks. — Luckily he suspected what had happened, and by giving them a greater offing we escaped. The packet, however, which succeeded us, was not so fortunate, for, not discovering the error, she went ashore on the ledge, and the ship's crew and passengers were saved, solely by the prompt assistance afforded by the boats from Heligoland. About sun-set we entered the mouth of the river Hever, and sailing up among low marshy islands covered with rich pasture and herds of horned cattle, came to an anchorage off the island called *Nord Strand*, whence we ascended the *Hever Stroem* a narrow channel winding amidst high muddy banks for nearly four miles. The night was extremely dark, the boat small, and loaded to the water's edge with passengers and luggage, but although we *grounded* several times, happily no accident occurred. At length we were landed at a ruinous stone pier, from which we groped our way to a little inn in the town of Husum, where in the chimney-corner of a clean sanded kitchen, by the side of a blazing turf fire, with a bottle of *Langen-Cork* or weak Bourdeaux wine, myself and fellow-passengers consoled ourselves after the dangers of the deep. The custom of sleeping between two feather-beds was quite novel to me, a *nouveau debarqué* in Germany, and was really intolerable; the being saluted in bed next morning with a warm cup of coffee was equally new, but much more agreeable; when that was discussed, and the ceremony

of dressing gone through, the procurement of post-horses was our next concern; but to our great disappointment, we found that our German fellow-passengers had already bespoken every pair in the village, and that we must perforce be detained four and twenty hours longer at Husum. I and my companions, Mr. and Mrs. K., determined to saunter about the village, and to while away the time by exploring the environs which are not altogether uninteresting. The ancient inhabitants of the coast of Holstein after having suffered for more than ten centuries repeated inundations, some of which carried off above six or seven hundred persons, entire villages, and whole herds of cattle at a time, determined at length to undertake the inclosure of the entire coast, and by means of dykes to fence off for ever the raging element. For this purpose they dug deep ditches around all the marshes, and heaping up the excavated earth on the outer brink, they formed broad dykes eight feet in height, and of a corresponding width. These works were carried on at intervals during four centuries. At the commencement of the eleventh century, the inclosed marshes on the coast of Sleswick alone were so extensive, as to include three provinces. However, in the year 1075, during a high spring tide, a south-west gale impelled the sea over the dyke of the island of *Nord Strand*, and the dyke itself having yielded to the force of the waves, a great part of the island was washed away. Similar catastrophes occurred in the years 1114 and 1158, and in 1204, which proved fatal to many of the marsh settlers. At length in the year 1216, the sea having risen so high, that its waves passed over *Nord Strand*, *Eyder Stade* and *Ditmarsh*, nearly ten thousand inhabitants of these low lands perished.

Again in the year 1330, when part of Heligoland was engulphed, seven parishes in *Nord Strand* and *Pell-worm* were destroyed, and in the year 1338, a great portion of *Ditmarsh* was swept away. Lastly, in the year 1362, the isles of Fora and Sylt, then forming one tract, were absolutely disjoined, and *Nord Strand*, then a marsh joined to the continent, was formed into an island. Things remained in this state till the year 1525, when the inhabitants having in some measure recovered from their despair, again turned their thoughts to excluding the ocean. For this end, stakes were planted in front of all the creeks which admitted the sea and osiers interwoven between them. These served as a sort of advanced work to break the force of the waves. Behind these, some years afterwards they raised dykes of considerable height, employing wheel-barrows, which were at that time (1500) a new invention. About the same period, the interior canals were enlarged and deepened so as to obtain more earth to augment the bases of the dykes. Notwithstanding which, on the 11th of October 1634, the sea having risen to an excessive height, made a breach in the dykes, and overwhelmed *Pell-worm*, *Nord Strand*, a great part of Ditmarsh and a portion of the new lands of Jutland. Princes now came forward to the relief of their suffering subjects, and Frederick the third Duke of Sleswick having learnt that the art of making embankments had attained greater perfection in Holland than elsewhere, applied to the States General, requesting they would send him an experienced engineer with proper workmen. This being granted, all the ruined dykes were repaired in the most substantial manner, and the descendants of the engineer were endowed with grants of land, and being

Catholics, were protected in the free exercise of their religion; they now inhabit *Nord Strand*, and superintend the repairs of the dykes all along this line of coast.

The particular improvement which this Dutch Engineer introduced into Holstein, was that of covering the dykes with straw ropes, a process which during our walk this day we had an opportunity of witnessing. The workmen having a bundle of straw near them, kneel down on the external slope of the dyke, and having twisted a rope of about two inches in thickness, thrust it into the earth of the embankment to the depth of several inches, by means of a forked chisel. To the remaining end of the rope they twist more straw, and again press it into the earth at intervals of six or eight inches, proceeding in this manner regularly along the dyke from top to bottom, each straw rope being laid close to the preceding as regularly as the bands of a beehive. The grass speedily springing up between these ropes, binds the whole surface together with its roots, and presents a yielding elastic cover to the waves of the sea, against which they produce little effect. The quantity of straw consumed annually in these repairs is, no doubt, immense, as it is necessary to renew these ropes whenever they become decayed, but such is the amazing fertility of the inclosed soil, that the farmers are speedily repaid, and the roofs of the barns and farm-houses being all thatched with bog-reeds, which are extremely durable, the straw from the fields is entirely set apart for the repairs of the dykes.

Husum itself is a poor village of about five hundred houses, the inhabitants of which are chiefly supported by dredging for oysters and preparing malt, of both which articles they send large quantities to Altona and Hamburg. The houses are built in the Dutch style, with high gabel ends fronting the streets, in

which are planted long rows of lime-trees clipped square, in the fashion of yew-tree hedges. — The dress of the men and women is also in the Dutch taste ; and like the Hollanders, they cover their graves over with wicker work, and plant them with flowers. There is a large church and a ruinous palace belonging to the ducal family of Holstein, both which buildings, as well as all the rest in the town, are constructed of brick. After having our passports examined and countersigned, the postmaster contrived to procure us post-horses next morning ; these we yoked to a second hand berlin which we had purchased here, and proceeded towards Rendsburg through a barren sandy tract of country, which a Danish poet of the fifteenth century, has well described in these lines.

> At madidis abducta locis, terrâque palustri
> In virides saltus, nemorosaque rura recedit.

Rendsburg, the key of Jutland, built on the southern bank of the river Eyder, is regularly fortified with bastions and wet ditches, and reputed to be one of the strongest fortresses belonging to the crown of Denmark. It is a dull dirty town, and chiefly remarkable as being the centre of a canal communication between the North Sea and the Baltic. From Tonningen, a sea-port on the North Sea, the Eyder is navigable for ships which ascend with the tide as far as the ramparts of Rendsburg, where they are received by a lock, and are raised fifteen feet to the level of a canal, connecting several small lakes to each other. After passing through these, the ships reach a second lock at Kluvansick, on which they ascend eight additional feet, and on arriving by the canal at Konningsford, a third lock receives them, and elevates them eight feet more : This is the highest level between the two seas. They now pass

through two other lakes, the Wittunsee and Westensee, and descending three locks as before, they enter the Baltic at Holtenau.

While at dinner at Rendsburg, we were disturbed by the clanking of chains, and upon looking from the windows of our inn, which commanded a view of the ramparts, we there observed about three hundred convicts, dirty, miserable, and half-naked, equipped with spades, mattocks, and wheel-barrows, returning under an escort, from their daily labour. This place may hence be called the Woolwich of Denmark. The lamentably filthy, wretched condition of these unfortunate felons reminded me of having somewhere read, that when the plague last visited Holstein in 1764, it first originated amongst the convicts in this garrison. We were here again detained for want of post-horses, and we found this inn dirty and miserable to a great degree, compared with that at Husum.

The ramparts are in part agreeably shaded with lime trees, under which we found the inhabitants enjoying the last rays of the evening sun. — The surrounding country is flat and sterile, and it was with pleasure we found ourselves next morning enabled to set off for Itzehoe.

## CHAPTER II.

*Itzehoe. — Pinneberg. — Danish Farm Houses — their vast extent and internal arrangement. — Hamburg — its sickly Population — Charitable Foundations. — Lombards — their utility.*

The country improved in appearance as we approached Itzehoe, a lively little town lying in a hollow slope by the side of the Stor, a rapid stream turning several mills in its course; after dining here, we proceeded in the evening to Pinneberg. During this day's journey, we had several opportunities of surveying the interiors of the farm houses, which are generally built upon the same plan, having externally the appearance of large barns, with folding doors at each end of sufficient size to admit loaded waggons; and, indeed, on stopping to bait our horses, our (Schwager) postillion, invariably drove in at one door, and took his departure by the other. On one hand are the apartments occupied by the farmer and his family, on the other the stable, cow-house, dairy, and piggery; in the centre, a large space, set apart for the waggons, ploughs, harrows, and other implements of husbandry, and over head the granary and hayloft. We were often agreeably surprised at finding the apartments of the farmer's family, furnished with a degree of comfort and neatness almost bordering upon luxury; every article was substantially good in itself, and was preserved in the greatest order and cleanliness. Thus, white muslin curtains, with fringes and draperies, covered

the windows; looking-glasses and chests of drawers were placed around; excellent large feather beds, and a profusion of the best well-bleached linen displayed the industry of the good housewives, while their dinner tables were equally well supplied with damask cloths and snowy white napkins. Near the doors of the dairies were ranged quantities of large, singularly shaped, brass and copper vessels, bright as mirrors, resembling those groupes of "still life" which so often adorn the corners of the pictures of *Teniers*, *Jordaens*, and other Dutch and Flemish artists. The dimensions of some of these buildings are surprising; I paced one which was 110 yards long, resembling in extent, the area of Westminster Hall. On the tops of their roofs, are generally displayed a set of antlers, and a weathercock; on others, two horses' heads are carved out in wood, and announce the rank of the inhabitants; the antlers, or rather bulls' horns, denoting the house of a tenant, the horses' heads that of a landed proprietor. This form of building seems to have been adopted from the earliest ages, amongst the inhabitants of Northern Germany, for Joannes Lasicius, in his treatise upon the gods of the Sarmatians thus describes them. "Their cottages, which they call *towers*, (turres) are formed into an acute angle at the top, with an opening to give vent to the smoke and foul air, and are constructed of rafters and planks, straw and bark; in these they live, with all their herds of cattle, lodged upon a boarded floor, so that the master of a family has constantly all his property under his own eye, whilst by sleeping close to the door himself, he protects his cattle from the wild beasts, and from the cold. To the *Deaster*, or household god, (the Browney, I presume, of the Scots), is committed the care of the fire, and it is his double duty to prevent its extinction during the night, and to take care that none

of the sparks may be communicated to the building, notwithstanding which, it frequently happens that either the dog or the hog, while stealing the meat from the pot on the fire, scald their noses with the boiling broth. Those who live in villages keep their flocks of sheep in folds adjoining the marshes. But both villagers and farmers are accustomed to stuff their mattrasses with the strippings of feathers, which are so soft as neither to irritate their skins nor keep them awake." Unfortunately, however, for this mode of building, which is certainly both convenient and economical, the *brownies* keep watch very remissly, so that fires are very frequent; and, as it is next to an impossibility, when they do occur, to bring forth the cattle from their stalls, the poor farmers generally lose every article both of their live stock and furniture, in the course of a few hours. Indeed their government has been obliged to interfere, and impose some very strict regulations, by which every farmer is forced to insure his dwelling and live stock; nor are houses allowed to be built in groupes, as formerly, unless at certain distances; this has had some good effect, for of late years, fires have neither been so frequent, nor so disastrous as heretofore, seldom extending beyond the single house in which they originate, while formerly whole villages were destroyed by the raging element. As insurance is so universal, it follows that the premium is moderate in proportion.

From the small town of Pinneberg, where we slept, we passed through a very fertile and populous tract, towards Hamburg — the fields were covered with herds of horned cattle, or richly covered with the waving blossoms of beans, buck wheat, and clover: the sides of the roads fenced with avenues of poplars and willows. It was Saturday, and we met long trains of stool waggons,

containing the burghers of Hamburg and Altona, pouring forth from these "reeking cities," to enjoy the repose of the tranquil Sabbath, amidst the fragrant orchards of the surrounding villages. The high bell-towers, covered with copper sheathing, and glittering in the sunshine, announced at the distance of several miles, that we were approaching the large commercial city of Hamburg; which we entered by a long wooden bridge, traversing a deep and broad wet ditch at the *Mullen-Thör*, or Altona Gate. As we halted here to give the serjeant of the burghers guard time to take down our names, we were conning over the pious motto inscribed on the arch above our heads, "Da pacem Domine in diebus nostris," which, indeed, ought to be that of every Christian and commercial state, although so often contravened, not, however, without severe and lasting cause of repentance. The serjeant's queries being soon answered, we passed on to the inn of the *König Von England*, where we were speedily put in possession of some good apartments on the third floor.

Hamburg, as the residence of all the foreign envoys of Lower Saxony, may be regarded as the court and capital of the country, although but a trading republic. The gambling houses, theatres, tables d'hôte, and opportunities of indulgence and luxury with which this spacious city abounds, prove an ample field of attraction to the neighbouring magnates who flock thither to get rid of the ennui of their own homes, and indulge their social and luxurious propensities, in a place where their habits and conduct neither attract observation nor call down censure. At the time of our visit the French army had occupied Laüenbourg, the opposite bank of the Elbe, and the whole of Hanover; the English Minister, Sir George Rumbold, had just before been forcibly carried off

to France, from within a gunshot of its gates, and De Bourrienne, the French Minister, was lording it over the luckless senate with the most tyrannical authority; hence Hamburg became but a precarious place of residence for our countrymen; so much so, that Colonel Gillespie, the intimate friend of my fellow-travellers, had considered it imprudent to remain there and await their arrival, as he had intended, having only by chance, through the good nature of Napper Tandy, then in Hamburg, narrowly escaped being conveyed into Hanover, by a stratagem planned for that purpose. Indeed, such was the system of *espionage* carried on at that period, that an unfortunate Hanoverian, late our fellow-passenger in the packet, employed to raise men for the German Legion, was *ferreted* out within twenty-four hours after his arrival, arrested at the request of De Bourrienne, and sent prisoner into Hanover, where he was detained in a fortress for twelve months. Setting aside, however, the political condition of Hamburg, at that moment, it was, and will be always, a town of considerable attractions. Its site on the Elbe, a noble expansive river, here four miles wide, interspersed with beautiful islets highly cultivated; its ramparts affording the most pleasing walks and rides, for an extent of nearly five miles, under avenues of well grown lime trees; the *Jungfernsteig*, a fine walk upon the Binnen Alster, a bason of water 1000 feet square, often covered with pleasure boats; the gardens of Rainville, at Altona, overlooking the Elbe; the hospitality of the inhabitants, the abundance of public libraries and literary lounging places, all contribute to render this city one of the most agreeable resorts for a foreigner in the North of Germany.

The population of Hamburg is much too dense, considering the extent of the town: there are not less than 120,000 inhabitants

who seem to be an unhealthy race, if we may judge by their sallow countenances, and by the amazing number of druggists' and apothecaries' shops in the remarkable proportion of at least ten to a single baker's shop. The French, by shutting up the Elbe, had put an end to the foreign trade; the river was without shipping; and nothing in the shape of commerce, except that of the sugar-bakers and preparers of salted beef, was going forward. The quantity of sugar refined in this city must have been immense, there being not fewer than 500 bake-houses for that article, with which they supply all the ports of the Baltic, and much of the interior of Germany, Poland, and Russia. The salting and smoking of beef, is a branch of trade which grows out of the refining of sugars *, for as a very large quantity of blood is required to clarify the syrups, the excess of animal food can only be employed by salting and exporting it to other countries. Sugars and animal food are, therefore, very cheap, at Hamburg; fruit, vegetables, and milk, are uncommonly good and abundant; weak red wines, from Bourdeaux, are likewise very reasonable. Bread is the only necessary article of life which is frequently dear, and the reason is, that the number of licensed bakers is small, and their weights are not subjected to public inspection. Impunity being ever the parent of imposition, the bakers have become the bloodsuckers of the poor, selling pieces of bread of an ounce weight, at the price which by law they ought only to charge for double the quantity. House

* Indeed not less than eighty millions of pounds weight of white sugar are refined annually; there are ninety-eight millions imported; and forty-six million pounds of coffee, which may account for the consumption of the surplus.

rent is also very dear, notwithstanding which, all articles of life in the adjacent town of Altona, are from fifteen to twenty per cent. cheaper; but to keep matters on an equality, provisions coming from Altona pay a tax to the city exchequer on passing the gates. The streets in Hamburg, with very few exceptions, such as the Newall, the Admiralty street, and the Old and New Steinwig, are narrow crooked dirty lanes, without side flags, pent in by lofty houses six or seven stories high, leaning over the heads of the passengers. The number of private carriages is very great, and as the coachmen drive always at a full trot, with no command of their reins or horses, accidents in the streets are very frequent; but such is the indifference for the lives of the poor, that these Jehus are never punished except by a small fine, and the sufferer, with his broken bones, is carried to an hospital without any notice being taken of the occurrence in any of the five newspapers printed here. This is very *Vandalic* and disgusting to a stranger; and another peculiarity is not less so: The number of deformed ricketty children, and humpbacked dwarfs and adults, is perfectly astonishing, and the name applied to the disease sounds strangely. Rickets throughout Germany, are called the English malady *Englische Krankheit.* — Luckily however for England, this disease is now little known amongst us, It is true, that towards the year 1634, Rickets were noticed in the London bills of mortality as having caused the death of fourteen children; this was then quite a novel disease, but from that time it went on gradually, increasing its ravages till the year 1660, when it is said to have proved fatal to no less than five hundred and twenty-one children; but, at the beginning of the eighteenth century the mortality had decreased to three hun-

dred and eighty, and fifty years afterwards, it had sunk down to eleven, so that at the close of the century, only one child is stated to have died of it. Hence we may conclude, that rickets, like the plague, are now a disease quite extinct in Great Britain. This fact in the natural history of mankind, is very extraordinary, and would be nearly inexplicable but for the rapid and remarkable change that occurred in our metropolis soon after the year 1660, when this disease was at its height. London was then what Hamburg is at the present day, a dirty ill-ventilated town, with narrow lanes, old wooden houses, damp cellars, the environs covered with marshes, and a very dense population confined within a small space surrounded with high walls. The plague of 1665, by carrying off ninety-seven thousand three hundred inhabitants, removed very probably an effete degenerate race, while the great fire which happened the following year, destroyed the unhealthy tenements, and made it necessary to rebuild the city upon an enlarged scale, better calculated to ensure the health and comforts of the rising generation. The common sewers were deepened, and Fleet-ditch and the other drains covered over; good pure water was conveyed in greater abundance to the new dwellings, and the whole manner of living, and domestic management and economy of the population during the next century; underwent a complete change; while a new stock of healthy people from the country were replacing the race which had passed away. We may therefore conclude, that if ever the Senate of Hamburg should adopt the pious and wise resolution of throwing down the greater part of their ramparts, and filling up their stagnating ditches, widening their unhealthy narrow streets, and giving the lower classes of the inhabitants an

opportunity of emerging from the wretched damp cellars in which they are forced at present to exist, the rickets would become, as in England, almost unknown, and strangers would no longer be shocked at beholding so many deformed human beings perambulating the public streets.

A more pleasing subject for contemplation is afforded by the numerous charitable institutions to be found in this city. Hamburg having been an Archiepiscopal see during the Catholic *regime*, abounded with abbeys, nunneries, and other pious foundations, the funds of which, upon the introduction of Lutheranism were very properly appropriated to the support of the poor and aged, and the endowment of hospitals for the sick. Of the charitable foundations, one or two may be here more particularly described; and, first, the *Lombard*, or public pawn house, or Monte de Pietà, as it would be called in Italy. These establishments were first formed at Rome, Bologna, and some other Italian cities, for the sake of relieving the poor in their moments of distress, and rescuing them from the gripe of usurers and Jews; they were subsequently formed at Hamburg and Amsterdam, and perhaps no better idea can be given of their scope and utility, than by quoting the words of a traveller who journeyed in Holland about the commencement of the last century. "The magistrates of this city, Amsterdam, take out of the merchants' bank a sufficient stock of money to supply the *Lombard*, a bank that lends out money, and is governed by four commissioners chosen out of the magistrates; who sit in court every day in the *Lombard*, which is a large public building 300 feet long, containing several chambers and magazines under one roof; in these several chambers the commissioners have officers sitting to lend money upon all sorts of

goods, even from a pair of shoes to the richest jewel, &c. This is a great convenience for poor people; yea, and may benefit merchants also, who sometimes require money to pay a bill of exchange; it prevents the cheating and extraordinary extortion used by the pawnbrokers in England and other countries. The poor have their pawns safely and well preserved; neither are they punctually sold when the stipulated time expires, nor denied under the pretext of being mislaid, as the poor are sometimes served by the wicked pawnbrokers. There is also another convenience in this *Lombard*, viz. an excellent method of discovering thieves and stolen goods; they publish two general open sales of goods pawned twice a year, that such as are able may redeem their goods, and on paying the interest may have them again, although the time be elapsed." So much for the *Lombard* at Amsterdam. — That of Hamburg is situated on the ramparts near the Lombards-Brücke. Money is lent on property at one half per cent. monthly interest, and the establishment is under the direction of two senators and six burghers, two being chosen from each of the three inferior chambers. It would not, perhaps, be amiss if some such establishments were formed in England; for, while we are creating banks for the savings of the more industrious poor, we ought not to abandon the helpless and less fortunate class to the gripe of Hebrews and usurers who wring from them twenty and twenty-five per cent. interest, which in a short time amounts to such a sum that they can scarcely, if ever, redeem their effects. It has lately been proved before a Committee of the House of Commons, that borrowing upon pledges has become an almost indispensable resource to the labouring classes; why then should they be abandoned in

England alone, of all countries in Europe, at the moments of their greatest need. * Certainly if one or two *Lombards* were established in each large manufacturing town, and placed under the strict scrutiny of the police, they might be made a very efficient means of detecting thieves and suppressing petty larcenies; by rendering the disposal of stolen goods an affair of much greater difficulty than it is under the present system.

## CHAPTER III.

*Public Granary. — Foundling Hospital. — The Vierlands. — Singular tenure of the Blue Sisters' Convent. — Rivalry between Hamburg and Altona — Parallel events in their history. — Funeral of the German Poet Klopstock. — Lubec — its decaying state. — Mare Meyer Kneller. — Ostade. — Strucasee Gadesbusch. — Rhadagaisus King of the Obstrites. — Idolatry. — Reliques of the Estii in Spain.*

Another institution at Hamburg deserving of particular commendation, is the Kornhaus or Public Granary, which generally contains fifteen hundred lasts of corn, and which, in times of scarcity, is sold out to the poor at a moderate price. I am not aware that there is any similar institution in England, except in the town of Birmingham. The *Waysenhaus* or Foundling Hospital is upon a larger scale than that of London, but whether its effects on public morality are beneficial or otherwise, may be questioned. In all countries where Foundling Hospitals are common, it has been remarked, that child-murder is a crime of rare occurrence; but whether female incontinence be or be not more frequent, it is difficult to decide. In Spain and Portugal, for instance, where there are Foundling Hospitals or *Inclusos* as they are called, in every little town, the number of Foundlings is immense; so also is the number of persons who live in a state of celibacy; but never did I hear, while in Spain, of a mother having murdered her infant. On the whole, I am inclined to

think that in all countries where civilization is far advanced, Foundling Hospitals on an extended scale are necessary, to prevent the commission of greater crimes. That of Hamburg was established by the beneficence of a rich and eminent merchant, another Captain Coram. It was founded early in the seventeenth century. Its income amounts to about 6000*l.* sterling per annum. The number of children is limited to one thousand, but the sucklings and babes are kept in the country till they are of a proper age, so that there are seldom above seven hundred and fifty or eight hundred at a time in the house. The children, when educated, are placed out as apprentices to different trades and occupations.

The fertility of the soil around Hamburg is amazing; the banks and islets are composed entirely of alluvial earth washed down by the Elbe, and, like the Delta of Egypt, are covered with the most luxuriant vegetation. A tract called the *Vierlands*, has long been noted for the beauty of its gardens. It consists of many acres covered with roses and the scarlet strawberry, which fruit is produced here in greater perfection than any where in Europe, not excepting even the far-famed banks of the Esk in the environs of Roslin Castle. The men and women from the Vierlands and Bardwick, remarkable for their grotesque dress, carry round these fruits and vegetables from door to door, the Vertumni and Pomonas of Hamburg; their vigorous and muscular forms are a strong contrast to those of the slender pining sugar-bakers, or the more graceful and often interesting figures of the *Haus Mädchens*, tripping like children of the sun, with radiated caps approaching to the form of the golden head-dresses of the ancient Irishwomen, still dug up from time to time in the bogs of Cullen.

A stranger may well be permitted to smile on beholding the slip-shod Burgers' guard crawling after a tattered banner inscribed S. P. Q. H. in sad imitation of the imposing style of the most heroic and warlike nation that has yet appeared on the earth. From the sublime to the ridiculous there is indeed but a step. A custom in Hamburg nearly allied to the sublime, but more to the Schimmelpenninck-*horrible-sublime*, is the tenure by which the Blue Sisters, a secularized religious society, hold their property. Whenever a felon is led forth to execution, in passing through the Stein-strasse, where their old convent stands, the nuns are required to be in waiting to present the criminal with a glass of white wine, which having drank, the executioner takes the glass from his hands and dashes it against the pavement, that no one may again drink from the accursed cup. The breaking of the rod, and throwing it into the tomb after pronouncing the style of the deceased, as practised in our own country, and the masked warrior entering the cathedral church of Cracow, and breaking the sceptre of the departed Monarch upon the altar, are but paraphrases of the same moral lesson; the paths of glory as well as those of crime lead but to the grave. This ceremony is of rare occurrence however in Hamburg; in 1805 there had been no execution for above a year. The last malefactor who had forfeited his life to the laws of this country, was one Rusan, by birth a Russian, and a candidate, that is, in holy orders, and engaged in the public education of youth. This wretched man, in the month of August 1803, had murdered his wife and four children, but owing to the extreme tardiness of justice in Germany, he was not executed till Monday, the 19th March 1804, when he suffered the punishment appointed for his crime, being broke upon the wheel.

Among the many reverses of fortune which history so clearly points out to be incident to all human affairs, there are many striking instances of Divine retribution displayed against hostile Princes and rival Nations. And among these examples, the fates of the rival cities of Altona and Hamburg, are by no means the least instructive, or remarkable.

Voltaire, in his history of Charles the Twelfth, says, that the burning of Altona by the Swedish army under General Stenbock, on the 9th of January, 1713, the most barbarous and cruel act, in all its circumstances, that was perhaps ever perpetrated, was done expressly at the instigation of the Senate of Hamburg, in order that they might rid themselves of their hated commercial rivals; and the strong evidence upon which this accusation is founded, is, that when the town of Altona was in flames, and the wretched inhabitants were driven out in the midst of a bitter winter-night to perish in the snow, the Hamburgers barbarously refused to open their gates, or allow even the women with their babes at their breasts, to take refuge in their city. Pollnitz, in his memoirs, attempts to apologise for this inhuman conduct, saying, " that the plague was then raging in Holstein, and that the Hamburgers dreaded any communication with the Altonese, lest by that intercourse they should bring the contagion within the walls; and besides that, they dreaded lest the army of Stenbock should rush in with the fugitives, and plunder Hamburg also." Such may have been the facts, but presumptions are strongly against Hamburg. The fate, indeed, of that city in our own days, while under the cruel fangs of the French army, seems to be but a just retribution by Divine Providence, for the sins of their forefathers against the people of Altona. History may be challenged in vain to produce two instances so completely

parallel as the sacking of these rival cities at the interval of one hundred years, by two foreign armies. The Swedes came at the instigation of the Hamburgers as their friends; the French came at the suggestion of the Danes, as their allies. The Swedes spared Hamburg but burnt and plundered Altona; the French occupied Hamburg, plundered the beloved bank, but respected their friends the Altonese. The burning of Altona took place in the midst of winter, when the ground lay deep in snow; the refugees implored from their cruel neighbours that assistance to which as neighbours and Christians they were entitled, but which the Hamburgers, more implacable than the elements, refused. The French General Davoust, at the same season of the year, drove out the aged and sickly inhabitants to perish amongst the snows naked and helpless; but here, fortunately for humanity the parallel terminates, the inhabitants of Altona, forgetful of all the wrongs their parents had suffered from the Hamburgers, generously opened their gates to the wanderers, and preserved them from certain destruction; and who shall deny that the finger of Divine Providence directed this late but sure retaliation. " ' Vengeance is mine,' saith the Lord."[3]

Happy would it be for the nations of Europe, if they would recollect the fates of Altona and Hamburg, and instead of wasting their resources in the most unceasing attempts to ruin their rivals, act like the Samaritan inhabitants of Altona, and assist each other in their days of distress. It is certainly time that a better spirit should arise amongst mankind, and these two cities have set the example. For in this more amicable disposition, did their inhabitants unite in March, 1803, to do honour to the remains of the immortal poet Klopstock, who died in Hamburg, in his 80th year, and lies buried in the church of Ottensee, in

Altona. His remains were attended to the grave by all the Foreign Ministers, then resident in Lower Saxony; by all the Senators and Magistrates of Hamburg, preceded by a band of martial music, and the choristers of the cathedral; and followed by a train of 120 carriages. The magistrates of Altona came forth in procession to receive the funeral convoy, attended by all the members of the learned professions, men of letters, general and other officers, preceded by a guard of honour, composed of Danish troops. Three young women clothed in white, and crowned with chaplets of flowers, accompanied the funeral car, carrying garlands of roses and myrtles, and strewing the flowers of spring, while the choristers chanted over the poet's grave, his own sublime ode to immortality.

In Hamburg there are no public buildings remarkable for architectural beauty. The dohm, or cathedral, is a very ancient Gothic structure, but it is built of brick, and the steeple, although of a great height (a leaning tower, like that of Pisa, in Italy), is only constructed of wood, sheathed with copper. In this church are some remarkable Gothic tombs, amongst others that of Anscarius, first bishop of Hamburg, who was massacred by the heathen Vandals, and sacrificed to their idols: that of Pope Benedict the Fifth, who died in exile in Hamburg, A. D. 996, and that of Albertus Crantzius, the historian, who died in A. D. 1517.

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Having completed my arrangements at Hamburg, in which I was politely assisted by Mr. Thornton, the British resident, and his brother, Mr. Robert Thornton, (author of "The present

State of Turkey," who was then on his return to England,) I took leave of my good friends Mr. and Mrs. Kearney, and set off for Lubec; which is distant one day's journey from Hamburg, the road lying across a sterile sandy tract of country entirely devoid of beauty.

Lubec, once the rich and all powerful head of the Hanseatic League, has silently fallen to decay, whilst her old associate Hamburg, profiting by her neighbour's political errors, and more fortunate in her geographical position, at the mouth of the main river of Germany, has continued to rise in the scale of wealth and prosperity. Fruitless and expensive naval wars against Denmark exhausted the finances of the Lubeckers, and rendered an increase of all their public burthens necessary; whilst a most intolerant spirit amongst their Lutheran Clergy, by banishing Jews and Catholics, has completed their city's decline.

The Hamburgers, destitute of ambition, and not curst with the overbearing spirit of their neighbours, early professed universal toleration, received the refugee Walloons, expelled from Flanders by the cruelty of the Duke of Alva, and at the same time opened their gates to all Hebrews and Catholics. Hence the capital and industry which were repelled from Lubec, finding ample security and encouragement at Hamburg contributed to establish her preponderance in such a degree, that no subsequent efforts of the Lubeckers have ever been sufficient to recover their lost trade. So that now, while in Hamburg, the most wretched cellar or garret produces a high rent, entire palaces in Lubec may be inhabited for a very trifle, and every necessary article of life is to be had in proportion. Thoughts have at different times been entertained of cutting a navigable canal between these two cities, which are only thirty-six miles asunder, and separated too

by a tract tolerably level; but as the Elector of Hanover, the Duke of Mecklenburg Schwerin, and the King of Denmark, are all severally interested in distinct portions of the intervening soil, the difficulty of bringing these potentates to any amicable arrangement seems almost insuperable; more particularly, as the Danish monarch would suffer materially in his revenue, by a falling off in the duties now paid by vessels entering the Sound. Still there is a sort of communication for *flat-bottomed boats* only, between Lubec and the German Ocean, through the rivers Steckenitz and Elbe; but the grand object would be to have a canal capable of transmitting square-rigged vessels of 180 or 200 tons burthen, as in the Danish canal of Rendsburg.

Lubec is built in an oval form, along two sides of a ridge; the river Trave, on which it is built, forming a basin for ships in the centre of the town. Like Hamburg, it is surrounded with bastions and ramparts, the streets are also narrow, and the houses terminate in acutely pyramidical roofs, with the gable ends fronting the streets. It abounds with churches, built as in Hamburg, of brick, with lofty steeples, and containing many curious objects of Gothic sculpture, painting, and mechanism, particularly a Dance of Death, resembling that of Holbein, at Basle in Switzerland, and a curious astronomical clock.

To strangers are still shown the rooms where the solemn meetings of the great Hanseatic Alliance were once held, when they were attended by the deputies of eighty-five trading cities; and a stone yet stands in the market-place, on which their Admiral, Mark Meyer, had his head struck off, for flying from before the Danish fleet.

The population of Lubec does not exceed forty-two thousand persons. No Jews are permitted to reside within the walls, but

they have a little village called Israelikdorff, at two miles distance, from whence they come daily to transact business. The port of Lubec is more properly at Travemunde, about nine miles down the river, at which place the custom-house entries amount generally to nine hundred or one thousand vessels, (that of Hamburg being two thousand,) about ninety of which pass the Sound; the rest go to the different ports in the Baltic. There is also a constant and rapid intercourse by packets, between Travemunde and Riga, in Livonia, and the ports of St Petersburg and Cronstadt.

The house in which our celebrated painter Sir Godfrey Kneller drew his first breath, was pointed out to me here, as also that of Adrian Ostade, the favourite subjects of whose pencil I could easily recognise in the little pot-houses along the road. Near the cathedral church there still stands the house in which Count Struensee, the David Rizzio of Denmark, once lived, when practising as a physician, before his unlucky stars sent him to the court of Copenhagen.

The country immediately around Lubec is very beautiful, in parts resembling Windsor forest; we found the green sward covered with flocks of geese, which are reared in large quantities to supply the quill manufactories of Lubec. As you approach Gadesbach, the country becomes hilly and covered with copses; and in the bottoms we encountered deep clay bogs, through which, from the lightness of our berline, we were extricated without much labour; but in one of these we passed a heavy-built English coach, containing a lady and family, immersed up to the very axle-trees, which the efforts of six horses seemed inadequate to move, and it rained so hard, that the children could not be taken out of the carriage; but we procured them

two yoke of oxen from a neighbouring farm-house, which helped them out of their embarrassment.

Gadesbach, where we dined, is remarkable in modern times for a bloody action fought in its neighbourhood, by the Swedish army under Stenbock, and the allied Danish and Saxon troops, when victory declared itself for the former. In more ancient times, Gadesbach is celebrated as being the site of a religious grove belonging to the idolatrous Obstrites, who here offered human victims to one of their false deities called Radagaisus or Rhadagast; a fragment of the iron crown which adorned the head of this image, is still preserved in the west window of the church, and shown to travellers. All this country, Mecklenburg Schwerin, as well as Mecklenburg Strelitz and the coasts of the Baltic, were occupied during the eighth and several succeeding centuries by tribes of Sclavonian pagans, distinguished by various names, such as Obstrites, Rhedarii, Tollenzenii, Venedi, Vandali, &c. &c. &c. These people were converted to Christianity by the efforts of the Catholic missionaries and Knights of the Teutonic order, but, after a period of seventy years, they relapsed into idolatry, and practised it openly as lately as the time of the German historian Ditmar of Mernburg, who wrote towards the commencement of the eleventh century. "There is," says that historian, "in the country of the Rhedarii, a certain city which is called Rhedegast; it has three horns and three gates, and is surrounded by a dismal forest, which forest is held in reverence by the inhabitants, who religiously abstain from touching any of the trees of which it is composed. Two of the gates of the city stand open to receive all those who may wish to enter; but there is one looking towards the east, which is the smallest,

and the only approach to which, is by means of a narrow foot-path winding by the edge of a lake which is dreadful to look upon. There is a temple curiously constructed of wood, supported on its foundations by the horns of various animals. Those who have had any opportunity of inspecting this temple say, that its walls are adorned externally by the figures of gods and animals, admirably carved; but in the interior are the figures of the divinities themselves, upon each of which is sculptured its appropriate name. These have helmets on their heads, and are cloathed in coats of mail, after a dreadful fashion. The principal idols are called *Luarasici.* These are honoured by the Gentiles more than all the others; their standards remain there constantly, and only such as are necessary for the foot-soldiers going upon military expeditions are ever removed. There are priests expressly appointed by the natives, carefully to guard all these objects. When the priests of the temple assemble together to sacrifice to the gods or to appease their resentment, they seat themselves on the ground, while the assistants remain standing. They then whisper to each other in the ear, scratch the ground with looks of terror, and after having thrown lots, endeavour to decide the matters in doubt. According to the various religious rites in this country, so have they temples and images of each particular demon. But the beforementioned city contains the chief of the whole; of which whenever they are about to levy war they go solemnly to take leave; and, upon returning from a successful expedition they consecrate to it the presents to which they believe it entitled. They endeavour carefully to find out, either by casting lots, or by means of horse-divination, what victims are best suited to appease their divinities, believing that their ineffable vengeance is only to be

averted by the blood of quadrupeds or human beings." This mode of divining, by means of horses, was in use both in Pomerania and in ancient Persia. — In many other respects the rites thus described bear a resemblance to those seen by Captain Cook and Sir Joseph Banks in the morais of the South Sea islands. One cannot but reflect with some degree of surprise that such should have been the condition of the tribes of Northern Germany, so lately as the middle of the eleventh century; but an anecdote of very recent date, mentioned by Count John Potocki, in his Travels in Lower Saxony, respecting a Venedic peasant in Hanover, is too remarkable to be omitted, more particularly as it shows the barbarism of their manners, even about the middle of last century. " At a place called *La Ghorde*, in the midst of a wild and savage tract of land, is a forest, one part of which is called the *Jammer Holtz*, or wood of lamentation. It is recorded, that George the Second, while hunting in this forest, heard some deep groans, and on galloping up to the spot whence the sounds proceeded, he found a Venedic peasant in the act of interring his father alive. The monarch shuddered with horror at the sight, whilst the peasant assured him with the greatest artlessness, that he was only pursuing a custom established amongst his own tribe from time immemorial; but which they only practised in secret, because of the fear they entertained of their German neighbours." After this, which is received as an undoubted fact in Hanover, we may the more easily give credit to the following circumstances, which are recounted of this same people in the year 1135. " On the death of Kanute, surnamed Lawaid, king of the Obotrites, his principalities were divided between Prebyslas and Niclot, one of whom governed the Wagrians and Polabians, and the other the Obotrites. These

two princes were in truth two ferocious savages, thirsting after the blood of Christians, and during their reigns the worship of all sorts of idols, and the practice of every description of horrible superstition was common throughout Sclavonia. For, besides their sacred groves, and the lesser divinities, which filled every house and field, they had *Prowa*, idol of the territory of Aldenbourg; *Siwa* or *Sivva*, goddess of the Polabians; *Radegast*, idol of the territory of the Obotrites; all which idols had their priests and sacrifices, and their peculiar modes of worship; the priests cast and consulted lots, and according to their inferences, fixed the days for the greater solemnities; at which were assembled all their men, women, and children, and at which times they sacrificed bullocks, goats, and sometimes even Christians, because it is their belief that the blood of these last victims is peculiarly agreeable to their false divinities. The priest, after having knocked down the victim, pours forth libations of its blood, that he may thereby be enabled to utter oracles, it being their general notion that blood attracts the demons. When the sacrifices are concluded, then the people give themselves up to rejoicing and feasting; for it is at that time that the Sclavonians perform a singular custom, which they have while drinking together, to pass round a large cup (patera) in which each individual mutters some words, I will not say of consecration, but rather of execration, in the name either of their good or bad divinities; implicitly believing that all good fortune proceeds from their good idol, and all bad fortune from their evil deity; which last they call *Dia-Bol* or *Czerniboch*, that is to say, the black idol.

" Amongst the numerous divinities of these Sclavonians, the most illustrious is *Swante-vil*, the idol of the Russians; him they believe to be the most efficacious in his oracles, and in com-

parison with him they consider all the others as inferior; so that to render him more particular honour they select annually, by lot, a Christian, and offer him up as a sacrifice; to the expences of which festival all the other Sclavonian tribes and provinces jointly contribute. For this temple these people have a singular respect, permitting no one to swear there, nor do they suffer its boundaries to be violated, even in pursuit of an enemy. The Sclavonians, are, moreover, a people transcendent for cruelty, never enduring to live in peace, and constantly harrassing their enemies by unprovoked hostilities, either by sea or land. Nay, it is difficult even to conceive all the various kinds of horrid deaths, by which they immolate the Christians. Sometimes they attach one end of their entrails to a tree, and wind them off by forcing the poor wretches to walk round it in a circle; at other times they nail him to a cross; thereby making a mockery of the symbol of our salvation; for it is their belief that the most wicked only should be crucified. Those whom they destine to be ransomed they afflict with torments and with heavy irons in an unheard of manner." — *(Helmoldi Chronica Slavorum.) Lubec, 4to.* 1659.

Such were the barbarians by whom the cities of Hamburg and Lubec were for several centuries beset, and against whom they, in self-defence, first entered into the great Hanseatic league, and whom afterwards, conjointly with the Dukes of Saxony, and the Knights of the Teutonic order, assisted occasionally also by the armies of the Emperors, they succeeded in reducing to subjection, and converting to the mild doctrines of Christianity. The passages before quoted from the works of Ditmar, bishop of Mersebourg, and from Helmold's Chronicles of the Sclavonians, had fallen into oblivion, when, towards the latter

end of the 17th century, between the years 1687 and 1697, some workmen, in digging through an artificial hillock in this neighbourhood, discovered various bronze implements and grotesque statues, connected with the performance of these idolatrous rites. Drawings of these were afterwards made by Mr. Panwogen, an artist of Berlin, and plates published from them. Within these last thirty years, Count John Potocki, an illustrious Polish nobleman, has collected and published many drawings of similar reliques, consisting of *paterœ*, urns, and images of idols fabricated either of bronze metal, or potters' earth, baked and unbaked, inscribed with Runic characters. * Radegast is represented as a human figure with a double visage, and having a bird perched upon his head, a bull's head with horns is represented on the trunk of his body: Sivva is figured as a female above the cestus; the figure beneath often represents a male. Prowa is generally represented as an old man cloathed in a coat of mail, with a bearded human head on his stomach. The other reliques represent Anubis, Hela or death, demons with a triple or quadruple visage, &c. &c. The name of Rhadagaisus imports, that he was the god of agriculture, *Rada* signifying a plough, and *gaisus* a lord. Sivva, the Venus of these idolaters, derives her name from the Chaldean *Zif*, splendour, beauty, or loveliness. As connected with the foregoing observations, it may be stated, that amongst other migrations of the Sclavonic Venedi, a great multitude appear to have landed on the northern coast of France, and to have occupied the country once called Poitou, to which they gave the

* Count John Potocki: "Voyage dans quelques parties de la Basse Saxe, pour la recherche des Antiquitès Slaves ou Vendes." Hambourg, 1795, 4to.

name of the Venedic territory, which is now known by the appellation of La Vendee. Another tribe of Sclavonians, called the Estii, who inhabited the province now called Esthonia, on the Baltic, appear to have passed at a very remote period into Spain, and occupied a tract of country in Castile, comprehending Salamanca, Ciudad Rodrigo, Gallegos, and the banks of the Coa river; for Tacitus states, that these people venerated the goddess mother under the image of a wild boar, which they carried with them on all their expeditions, and at this hour the rudely carved granitic images of a wild boar, (or bear, or hippopotamos) are to be seen built into the Roman bridges of Salamanca and Ciudad Rodrigo, and also near the churches of Gallegos and San Felices, on the Coa. The name given by the Spaniards to these images, is the *Barrieco* or the roaring animal (*barus*, grave; and *echo*, sound).[4]

## CHAPTER IV.

*Schwerin. — Neustadt. — Prussian Posting. — Fehrbellin Canal. — Berlin. — The Schloss or Palace. — Public Buildings. — Monuments. — Literary and Scientific Establishments. — New Mint. — Public Hospital. — Institution for Deaf and Dumb. — Anecdote of a Dumb Painter, and the Countess Lichtenau. — Regeneration of Prussia — its effects.*

We slept at Schwerin, the capital of one of the principalities of Mecklenburg: a pleasant little town, beautifully situated by the edge of a shallow lake, remarkable for giving rise to two small rivers; the one flowing into the Elbe and German ocean, and the other into the Baltic Sea. Adjoining the town is the Gothic castle of the Prince, placed upon an island, and connected by drawbridges with the main-land. The town of Lubec owes much to the Dukes of Mecklenburg Schwerin, who assisted the people in their wars against the Sovereigns of Denmark, as well as against the pirates of the Baltic. Indeed, it was Henry the Lion, first Duke of Schwerin, who, having seized by a stratagem the persons of Waldemir the Second, (A. D. 1222,) and his son, restored the Hanse towns of Lubec and Hamburg, with all the adjoining coast, to their ancient freedom, afterwards more fully established by the victory of Bornhovede, and the total defeat of the Danes. In memory of this good service, the Magistrates of Lubec are accustomed to send every year, at Martinmas, during the month of November, a deputation to the Duke of Schwerin,

to compliment him with a hogshead of Rhenish white wine. Dr. Nugent, who travelled through Mecklenburg in 1766, was present at this ceremony, now known by the name of *Martins man*. "The court of the palace," says the Doctor, "was filled with an immense crowd, when a vehicle, resembling a post-waggon, drove into the court, in which were seated a deputy of the magistrates of Lubec, several subaltern officers dressed in red, a public notary, and two witnesses. They brought with them a hogshead of Rhenish wine, which the senate of Lubec send every year as a present to the Duke of Mecklenburg Schwerin. They drove pretty fast round the court, throwing money among the mob, who fought and scrambled for it like devils. Presently an officer belonging to the Duke made his appearance, and was addressed by them in the following terms. — 'The senate and citizens of Lubec have sent this cask of wine to his Serene Highness, as a testimony of friendship and good neighbourhood.' The Duke's officer made answer, 'We accept it not on account of friendship and good neighbourhood, but as a just debt and matter of obligation.' Upon which the deputy ordered his notary to take down his protest in writing, and the witness to attest it. The same caution was used on the side of the Duke's officer, who entered a counter protest with vehemence and warmth. Then the deputy and his attendants were led into an apartment in the castle, and entertained with a good dinner. But what is very droll in this ceremony, the carriage is carefully examined before it drives into the court, and if there should happen to be a defect in the wheels or in any other part, the whole is forfeited to the Duke. The deputy and his people stay all night, but are obliged to depart next day before noon."[5] See *Nugent's Travels in Germany*, vol. ii. p. 221.

Schwerin, in Sclavonic, signifies a deer park; we drove through one on leaving the town, where, instead of deputies from Lubec, we left a host of spies from the French army at Lauenburg, who intercepted, when they could, all couriers going or coming from England, and only a few weeks before an English messenger had been robbed by them, and left tied to a tree in a forest near Gadesbuch. The country between Schwerin and Neustadt is well wooded, and resembles much the New Forest in Hampshire, between Southampton and Lymington. — We saw no French picquets, but passed within half a mile of their outposts: it was pleasant to know that we had reached the Prussian frontiers, as I had been entrusted with some letters for Vienna and Constantinople, which were of consequence to the British interests there. But as no pleasure is unalloyed, I was soon made sensible of the miseries incident to travelling through the deep sands of Prussia. Indeed, the excessive irksomeness of a journey through that country cannot be well described. Sterile dreary flats extend on every side, to render which fertile the industry of man seems struggling against the complicated austerity of a severe sky, and a rigid military government. Bad post-houses, uncivil post-masters, sulky drivers, jaded horses, and most abominable roads, are the agreeable attendants of Prussian posting; the only consolatory circumstance is the recurrence of the large mile stones of red granite, shaped like obelisks, which meet the traveller's eye from time to time; and announce a hope that he may at length come to the end of these weary stages; it is above all things singular to contemplate the effects of a strictly military *régime* upon the conduct and character even of the civil servants of the government. Protected by his royal livery, the Prussian postillion saunters on at the rate of one German mile an hour,

and no bribes, intreaties, or threats, can induce him to exceed the regulation, or spur his horses into a smart trot, even where the roads will permit such a wonderful exertion; with all the provoking phlegm inherent to his character, he grins sardonically in your face, drops his reins on the necks of the rosinante post-horses, and taking out his everlasting *meer-schaum* tobacco-pipe, his tinder-box, and flint, goes on chipping for half an hour, till he lights the sluggish weed; whiffs the nauseous fumes in your face, mounts or dismounts to arrange his wretched ragged harness, ever and anon cracks his greasy whip, merely to keep himself awake, or puffs harsh discord from the cracked tube of his battered post-horn; and if he ever does venture to urge his steeds, it is only upon the dislocating surface of some ruined causeway, when he hopes to break the springs of your berline, and delay you at some village where he may drink a triple portion of brandy wine schnaps. All this, and much more, must every traveller expect to endure who makes a progress, or rather pilgrimage through the Prussian states. To crown his mortifications, it may also happen to him, as I know it did more than once to myself, that about the middle of the stage his postillion may encounter another equipage bound to his own post-house. — If so, he will have the additional gratification of seeing a very amicable exchange of carriages, the two postillions unharnessing in the middle of the road, each putting his own horses to the strange carriage, and after conversing for half an hour, again turning their faces homewards. The first time this happened to me I was silent; it seemed so strange that I was determined not to interrupt the process which took place in a dark night on the road between Peileberg and Fehrbellin; but just when I hoped that every arrangement was settled, and that my new postillion

and his horses would make amends for my long forbearance, the fellow discovered he had lost his whip — then there was such jabbering and spluttering, and *sacramenting*, nothing was ever like it. Not a star was to be seen; all dark as pitch, with no lamps to our carriage; the wretch cursed and swore, and whined, but all to no purpose, then he got on his knees and groped on the sand for a good quarter of an hour, till at length Czerni-bog or the devil took pity on him, and surrendered the lost whip, and at last we proceeded along the sands. This may do for once, thought I, but I can hardly submit to it a second time; a Saxon postillion, however, near Dresden, was still more unreasonable, for, having three horses, this fellow, on meeting a traveller coming from Dresden with only two, very coolly unharnessed mine, with the intention to exchange them against the pair; this I could not allow, so leaping from the carriage, I showed my pistols, and made the fellow bring them back again, and we then went on to Dresden, where he lodged a complaint against me, but no purpose. The same thing again occurred to me while travelling in Galitzia, when I once more resisted and prevented its execution; so that I conclude it is an unauthorised exchange, which although very notorious, is not yet openly justified by the German governments.

Near Fehrbellin, the road crosses a canal, which unites the Elbe, the Havell, and the Oder*; it seemed to have been lately finished, but there was little traffic upon its banks. Fehrbellin was the scene of a battle in the beginning of last century, between the Prussians, under their Great Elector Frederick William, and the Swedes;

* The Canal of Bromberg was begun in 1782, and completed in fifteen months. It has ten locks, its length is 6850 rods, reckoning the rod at 12 feet Rhenish measure.

when, the Elector being mounted on a white horse, which attracted the enemy's fire, one of his equerries persuaded him to exchange horses; this man's generous solicitude for the safety of his sovereign proved fatal; for a few moments after, a cannon shot terminated a life of honour by a death of glory. The name of this brave man was Forben, and his devotion and loyalty to his Prince will entitle him to a high rank amongst the illustrious patriots of Prussia.

About one German mile from Fehrbellin we entered a thick wood, which continued with little interruption to within half a mile of Berlin. Our last relay of post-horses was obtained at a single house, standing solitarily in the midst of this forest, so deeply hid amongst the trees, that we were already at the door before we had descried it; and it strongly reminded us of a blockhouse in the midst of a North American wood. Three hours more brought us to Berlin. Here our carriage was stopped at the gates that the passport might be examined; and whilst this was transacting at the guard-house on the right hand, a brace of custom-house officers sallying from their lodge on the left-hand side of the gate, took possession of the keys of our portmanteaus, and began to rummage their contents, lest, peradventure, smuggled snuff or tobacco should have taken refuge amongst our linen or books. It was an amusing sight to observe the avidity with which these harpies of king Phineas's court pounced upon the baskets of the unfortunate citizens, and seized the copper coin extorted from the hapless and reluctant peasants, for each luckless cucumber or lettuce. I had never before seen "Finance's petty-fogging pickling plan" so well exemplified in all its miserable deformity. Not a single shalot or radish could escape; every thing eatable here pays a duty before it can enter the town. As to ourselves, the officers found

nothing excisable, but there being an unlucky box of papers amongst my luggage, directed to the Right Hon. C. A. at Constantinople, the seals of which I did not choose that they should break, as well as a paper parcel directed to the Hon. Mr. Jenkinson, at Vienna, on which I imposed the same *veto*; the custom-house worthies immediately beckoned two soldiers, who springing up before and behind the carriage, conducted us to the yard of the custom-house, where these *spolia opima* were deposited in due form; and I was then permitted to go to my hotel. First impressions are powerful, and this reception was but ill calculated to put a weary traveller in good humour with the Prussian capital, but the appearance of the breakfast table at the Golden Eagle would soon have dissipated my spleen, had not the landlord come up with a printed Police report, in which, before I could swallow a single cup of coffee, I was forced to enter name, country, profession, &c. &c. &c. This, however, is Berlin Police. *Leges sine moribus.* But what are laws, alas, without morality!

No contrast can well be more striking than that presented by the cities of Berlin and Hamburg. None of the offensive peculiarities in the appearance of the latter city are here visible; the traveller, in the course of sixty miles, seems to have borrowed the wings of time, and outstripping the slow and gradual progression of the arts for four centuries, finds himself on a sudden, placed as it were in the midst of an Italian city, surrounded with wide and dry streets, spacious squares, avenues, bridges, porticoes, palaces, triumphal arches, statues, and cupolas, and instead of the jutting abutments of mean brick buildings, beholds on all sides the ample proportions of stately edifices — the triumph of human industry over the sterility of

nature, a modern Palmyra raised by the wand of an enchanter amidst the hyperborean deserts of Brandenburgh.

Of the history of Berlin previously to the commencement of the thirteenth century, nothing is positively ascertained. It was probably an obscure village — for it was not till the reign of the Emperor Frederick the Second, that Prussia, possessed by idolatrous hordes, was converted to Christianity by the swords of the Teutonic knights. It then remained Catholic till A. D. 1539, when the Elector Joachim the Second, embraced the doctrines of Luther, and the people followed their Prince's example. When the Great Elector appeared, all the houses of Berlin were of wood, the streets crooked and unpaved, and every thing about it in the same vile condition. But as soon as that Prince had obtained peace for his country, he dedicated himself to the improvement of Berlin his favourite city, and transferred the seat of government thither from Königsberg. His son, the first king of Prussia, followed up his father's plans, and after him, Frederick the Great occupied himself during the intervals of a long and stormy reign of forty-six years, in completing it in its present splendour.

The river Spree, upon which Berlin is situated, is narrow and of no great depth, but navigable for small craft. It rises in Lusace, and, after winding through the plain of Berlin, where it divides its waters to form two islands, it joins the Havell under the walls of Spandau. By the navigation of this river, Berlin obtained the stone which composes its public buildings and the pavements of its streets; through the same channel its markets are always well supplied with great quantities of fresh fish. Berlin (properly speaking) is formed of five towns and four suburbs, but they are so closely united as to be only one city

surrounded by a wall about eighteen feet high, of no strength, and of no further utility than to prevent the introduction of goods except at the barriers. The private houses are generally of four and five stories high, solidly constructed of brick cased with stucco to imitate free-stone, the streets are drawn in regular angles, well paved, with footpaths, posts, and chains, to protect the foot-passengers from the carriages and sledges; and many of them are shaded with rows of lime trees. The soil is very dry and sandy, so that heavy rains are soon absorbed; but from the action of the sun's rays in summer, and the drying easterly winds of winter, it is liable to be raised in clouds of very subtile dust which enters the organs of respiration; and the variations of temperature in the atmosphere being great, as well as sudden, inflammatory diseases, particularly of the lungs, are common and very fatal, generally terminating as in England in pulmonary consumption, and, as in the latter country, are here the principal cause of mortality. In the year 1802, the Berlin bills of mortality stated the deaths from this disease at not less than 1424, which, from a population of 150,000 souls, is a very great proportion.

The beauty of the royal street, (called formerly St. George, which name was dropped after the solemn entry of Frederick the First, returning from his coronation at Königsberg,) is a principal object of attention. A stranger, on arriving at the great bridge, is first attracted by the equestrian statue of "the Great Elector" Frederick William, erected in 1703 by his son Frederick William. The long bridge then conducts him to the great square of the King's palace, where he finds himself surrounded by some very imposing masses of architecture. On his right is the royal Schloss, built in the form of a lozenge,

one front looking upon the great square, the opposite towards the garden (Lustgarten), another upon the river Spree, and the fourth on the buildings called "the liberties of the palace." Around the attics runs a balustrade adorned with statues and trophies. As the Schloss has been built by portions erected at various times, its symmetry is far from perfect, but the general effect is good, the front, looking upon the Spree, is the only part now remaining of the ancient electoral residence. Frederick the First, and his successor Frederick William the First, rebuilt the other three faces, and the whole was completed in 1716. Frederick the Great, living chiefly at Potsdam or in the camp, bestowed but little pains upon its interior embellishments, which were chiefly completed by the late monarch. The portico of the front, looking towards the royal liberties, has been most admired, as a tolerable imitation of the arch of Septimius Severus at Rome. It was designed by the celebrated Schluter. By an adjoining staircase there is a communication from the vaults under the palace to the roof, where are three cisterns capable of containing seven thousand hogsheads of water, which are forced up by some hydraulic windmills from the *werder* or island in the Spree. This water is destined for the extinction of fire in case of accidents. The interior of the Schloss corresponds with its external magnificence. The apartments of Frederick William the First, those of Frederick the Great, and of the late King, the concert saloon, the dinner hall, the orderly hall, the white hall, the hall of the Swiss, and of the knights of the Black Eagle, together with the picture gallery, are all very fine, and the cabinets of curiosities and of natural history contain several rare and good specimens, well arranged, as do those of medals and antiques. In the cabinet of curiosities we particularly noticed

some sculptures in amber and ivory; articles from Japan, China, America, and Otaheite; many antiques illustrative of the rites and customs of the ancient Prussians; models of an English man of war and of a windmill at Saardam, made by Peter the Great of Russia. In the natural history collection are some fine minerals and fossil productions of great rarity and value, particularly those illustrative of the formation of amber, which is to be seen exuding from wood, and filling up all its pores and crevices. Among the zoological specimens, is the fine collection of fishes formed by the late Dr. Block, consisting of 850, of which 520 are preserved in spirits, and the rest dried or stuffed.

The Lust garten is only a large square serving as an exercising ground for troops; it was here that Frederick the Great used to take great delight in looking upon his gigantic grenadiers from a window of the palace still pointed out to strangers. In an alley of this garden stands the statue of Prince Leopold Anhalt Dessau, one of the organisers of the Prussian infantry. He is sculptured in white Carrara marble, standing on a pedestal adorned with bas reliefs and inscriptions; but this, although a work of Schadow, is but ill adapted to display the sculptor's talents, the costume being modern and abominable. Near it stands the cathedral church built by Frederick the Great, a handsome edifice, the front of which is adorned with six columns of the Ionic order, the dome surrounded by Corinthian columns. Within it are deposited the remains of the royal family. Near the "dog's bridge" is the arsenal, where are twenty-one masks representing the various aspects of death, which it is the fashion to think very fine, but the figure of repentance with her head surrounded with snakes, is, in my opinion, much better. The finest quarter of the city is that

called the burg of Dorothea, built by the great Elector, and named after his consort Dorothea. Passing a fine bridge, you come upon the great square of the opera, surrounded by the palace of Prince Henry on the right, the opera-house on the left, the library and cathedral church on the further side, while the magnificent Linden walk, terminated by the far-famed Brandenburg gate, completes the perspective. The Italian opera-house is a fine building capable of containing 6000 spectators, and having a concert room adjoining. Fronting it is the royal library built in 1775 by Frederick, containing now 160,000 volumes, formed and selected from the various collections of several private individuals and men of science, such as Spanheim, Roloff, Dr. Mochsen, Quintus Icilius, Professor Forster, &c. &c., to which have been more lately added, those of Prince Henry and of the Academy of Sciences. In this building are preserved several curious objects, such for instance as a Chinese printing apparatus; the first pneumatic machine invented by Otto Guericke, and his two hemispheres, called the hemispheres of Magdeburg; an ancient writing executed with a style on a tablet covered with wax; an Indian writing on papyrus; a beautifully illumined MS. Alcoran, a MS. of Luther, and another of Albertus Magnus. Adjoining to the library are some rooms thrown open to the public thrice a week, where the books of the library may be consulted. The Linden walk is a street about 1600 paces in length by 50 in width, having on each side a range of magnificent buildings, with a drive for carriages fenced off by granite posts and iron chains. The Brandenburg gate at the further end, is an open colonnade composed of twelve fluted Doric columns, each 44 feet by 5; six of these are placed on each front, leaving five intervening

apertures. It was built in 1790 after the designs of Laughan formed upon the model of the Propylea of Athens. The attic is adorned with sculptures in bas relief, representing the Margrave Albert Achilles, one of the ancestors of the house of Hohenzollern, capturing with his own hands, a standard from the army of the Nurembergers. The metopes are adorned with sculptures representing the combats of the Centaurs and Lapithæ, and to crown the whole, there is the thrice captured triumphal quadriga.

*Wilhelm's Platz*, or William's Square, may be regarded as the Pantheon of the Prussian heroes of the seven years' war. It is adorned with five statues of white Carrara marble. One of these represents Field-Marshal Schwerin, in Roman costume, holding the stand of colours which he seized at the battle of Prague, (6th March, 1757). Another represents, Lieutenant-General Winterfeld, who was killed at Mays, in Upper Lusace (9th September, 1757), also habited in Roman costume, leaning against an oak, his hand resting on the hilt of his sword. The third is Field Marshal Keith, killed at the battle of Hochkirk, (14th October, 1759). He is represented in modern uniform, as well as General Seidlitz, who died in 1773. Lastly, there is the fine statue of the Hussar General de Zieten, the favourite of Frederick, and one of the most intrepid of the Prussian warriors. He is in his full Hussar uniform, with his left hand raised to his chin, his usual musing attitude. These statues are overlooked by a number of fine hotels, particularly that of Prince Ferdinand of Prussia. The last mentioned statue, much the best of the whole, was not erected till after the decease of Frederick. It stands fifteen and a half feet high, including the pedestal, which is formed of grey Silesian marble, encrusted with basso relievos of

white marble, representing some singular military achievements, performed by De Zieten. The garrison church contains four good pictures by Rode, representing the deaths of the before named Generals, which have been well engraved by German artists; and the church is also decorated with many colours and standards, captured from the enemy, the trophies of Prussian valour. Another very beautiful monument at Berlin, is that of the young Count de la Masche, natural son of the late King, by the Countess Lichtenau, which stands in the church of Dorothea. The count is represented in the act of expiring, reclined on the top of a sarcophagus, his helmet has fallen from his head, and his sword is quitting his lifeless grasp. Around the sarcophagus, are sculptured in bas relief, the three Parcæ, who have wound off the vital thread of this pupil of Minerva, which Goddess is represented beside the twin brothers, Sleep and Death, to whose empire she resigns the Prince. This tomb and that of General De Zieten, are from the chisel of the Prussian sculptor, Schadow.

Berlin abounds with literary and scientific men who compose various societies, amongst which, the Academy of Sciences, the friends of Natural History society, and the Cabinet of Mines, are the most prominent. The first was formed by the Queen Sophia Charlotte, of Hanover, a sovereign of the most amiable character, and great literary merit, passionately enamoured of metaphysics, and the friend and patron of the great Leibnitz, whom, with other learned men, she invited to Berlin. During the reign of Frederick, the great mathematician Maupertuis, organised the academy anew, and arranged it into four classes; comprehending mathematics, experimental physics, metaphysics, and belles lettres. Each class has a director and five resident

members, making the whole number of ordinary members twenty-four, exclusive of the president and perpetual secretary. Each member receives a stated pension, and is employed by the state, to perform particular duties, connected with his own department. There are two great public sittings held annually, when the premiums are distributed. During the reign of Frederick its transactions were published in French, but since his decease, both Latin and German papers are admitted. The sittings are held in a building near the Linden walk, behind which is the observatory, a square tower, sixty feet high, terminated by a platform. It contains a good collection of mathematical and astronomical instruments, and the library is confided to the care of Mr. Bode, Astronomer Royal, favourably known in the literary republic, as the author of an Uranography, or Catalogue of 17,240 stars, a work of great accuracy and observation.

At present, however, the study of Natural History in all its branches, is that which is cultivated with the greatest assiduity at Berlin. The lovers of nature first formed themselves into a society in 1773, which was sanctioned by the government in 1778, and the late king presented them with a large house, where they now hold their meetings every Thursday; they have also monthly *conversazioni* in turn at each other's house. Their transactions are contained in 18 volumes, comprising discoveries and notices upon every branch of Natural History, Chemistry, Mineralogy, and Medicine. Amongst the members belonging to this society are Humboldt, Bode, Klaproth, Willdenow, Karsten, De Hermstaedt, De Fleurke, De Laspeyres, De Klug, De Gronau, De Reich, &c. &c. This society also possesses an excellent library, and a choice cabinet of specimens in Natural History, comprehending a rare collection of the mam-

miferæ of Africa, insects of Surinam, turtles and tortoise-shells, and anatomical preparations, &c. and a fine *herbarium* of the plants of India and the Cape of Good Hope; besides a most precious collection of minerals, consisting of 12,000 specimens brought from the mines and mountains of Transylvania, Hungary, Silesia, Carinthia, Carniola, France, Switzerland, Italy, England, Scotland, Ireland, and South America. Besides M. Humboldt, the intrepid investigator of the Andes, Berlin may boast of having produced another illustrious living traveller, the Count de Hoffmanseig, who has traversed the greater part of Europe, and has for many years been occupied in preparing for the press a magnificent botanical work, with plates descriptive of the Flora of Portugal and Brazil, the plates and drawings of which work he has spared neither labour nor cost to collect and execute. This work, when completed, will do honour to the arts in Prussia, and place the name of Count Hoffmanseig among those of Banks, Humboldt, Lambert, Linnæus, and other illustrious men, who have by their exertions so effectually promoted and embellished the science of botany. Mr. Willdenow, the celebrated author of the Species Plantarum, possesses a herbarium of 19,000 plants, comprehending those collected by Gundelsheim the companion of Tournefort. Both Klaproth and Hermstaedt are distinguished for their chemical discoveries as well as Karstine, who is charged with the department of the mines, and has arranged in a very scientific manner the collection of minerals contained in the new mint, a building lately erected by the present king. These minerals he has divided into three classes, namely, one illustrative of the topography of Prussia, another of the system he adopts, and a third comprehending all minerals foreign to the Prussian states, or the exotic, as he styles

them. The system adopted by M. Karstein is that of Haüy. To this collection have lately been added many rare minerals presented by Humboldt and Ferber. Amongst other curious specimens, is a piece of yellow amber, weighing thirteen pounds and a half, found by a peasant at Strapohen, a village near Jurterburg. The present king presented the fortunate finder with one thousand rix-dollars. There is also a morsel of native platina weighing 1088 grains, and a large piece of fiery opal brought from South America by Humboldt. The building itself, has externally no claims to admiration; it is decorated, however, with some bas-reliefs, representing the processes of working and stamping the precious metals, and an inscription as follows: —

"Fredericus Gullielmus III. Rex.
"Rei Monetariæ, Mineralogicæ, Architectonicæ."

The charitable establishments of Berlin are numerous and well-conducted. The great hospital founded in 1710 by King Frederick the First, contains four establishments; a Clinical hospital, a lying-in charity, a syphilitic or lock hospital, and an hospital for lunatics. It is a large building consisting of four pavilions placed round the sides of a square surrounded externally by gardens and groves of white mulberry-trees. The wards are large and airy, containing each 30 or 40 beds, clean, well arranged, and during winter well warmed by means of large earthen-ware stoves. The first physician to this charity is the celebrated Dr. Hufeland, the king's physician, and the second Doctor Horn, well known by several literary works. In the lock hospital, the female patients are, generally speaking, extremely young, early victims to the great depravity of morals

for which Berlin is so notorious, and of which the following may give some idea.

Inter ægrotas hoc nosocomio inclusas sæpe reperiantur ducentæ puellæ morbo syphilitico affectæ, quarum plurimæ, vix duodecim annos natæ, ulcera specifica palato et velo pendulo palati habentes ! ! !

The number of sick received into this hospital annually amounts to about three thousand; but the mortality is very great, seldom less than one in six; while in the hospitals of London it is only one in fourteen and one in sixteen.

Another establishment, connected with the healing art, is the Medico-Chirurgical College for the training and instruction of army surgeons. It is composed of a principal and twelve professors, who give lectures on all the various branches of science connected with medicine and surgery. This school enjoys a great reputation throughout Germany, the professors being men distinguished for their talents and scientific knowledge, such as Hufeland, Walter, Formey, Willdenow, Heraubstaedt, Mussinna, &c. &c. The anatomical theatre is under the direction of Walter, one of the first anatomists of the age, and is most amply provided with subjects, at least two hundred annually. Every physician and surgeon, before he can settle within the Prussian dominions, must have studied at this school: a wise and humane regulation, which has tended much to raise the character of the medical profession, and has been of essential benefit in particular to the army in producing many excellent surgeons, such as Schnucker, Theden, Goerkè, &c. Seventeen pupils are constantly instructed here at the expence of government, and sent to fill vacancies as they occur amongst the regimental surgeoncies. The superb anatomical collection of pre-

parations formed by Mr. Walter, has lately been purchased by His Majesty, for 100,000 rix-dollars, and consecrated to this establishment. It is placed in a large building in the Linden walk, and is thrown open to the inspection of the public on certain days weekly, cards of admission being delivered on application to the junior Mr. Walter, who is appointed conservator of this collection, the formation of which occupied his father during twenty-five years of a long life. The preparations are kept in admirable order, and comprise many very curious objects; amongst them are, two gigantic skeletons of Frederick's far-famed grenadier guardsmen. From a catalogue of this collection, lately published by Mr. Walter, the number of specimens appears to amount to six thousand and upwards.

The hippiatric art is also much attended to in Prussia. The late king founded a veterinary school in 1790, which is situated in the suburb of Orangeburg, and includes an area of 20 acres. The circular building in which the lectures are given is capable of containing twelve hundred auditors, and is lighted by a cupola at top. In the centre is a round table, which, by means of pullies, can be lowered into the vault beneath to receive the dead quadruped to be demonstrated, which is then raised into the lecture room. Adjoining is an excellent collection of preparations in comparative anatomy, and a museum of stuffed quadrupeds, among which are a dromedary, zebra, fawns, a lion, a camel born in Prussia, and the favourite grey cropt charger of Frederick the Great, which died a few years since in the royal stables at a very advanced age. Ranged by their side is a collection of skeletons of all these various animals. There is also a singular assemblage of every description and form of horse-shoe in use amongst the various people of the globe. In a pavillion

in the garden stands an immense electrical machine, with glass plates the size of cart-wheels, and a battery of six jars of adequate dimensions, the charge of which is said to be of such power as to knock down a horse. The place in which the sick horses are put into a warm bath, is so constructed that the animals may walk gradually down an inclined slope till the warm water reaches their necks; a stable well warmed with stoves adjoins it, into which the animal is afterwards conveyed. There is also a large range of infirmary stables, and the establishment is provided with two professors, a druggist, and two farriers, who give practical demonstrations on the best mode of shoeing and managing the hoof.

I had almost forgotten to mention a small establishment for deaf and dumb children, on the plan recommended by the Abbés Sicard and De l'Epée, at Paris. The pupils here generally amount to fifteen or twenty. They are instructed in reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, and drawing. This establishment was founded, as I believe, during the reign of the late king, and the Countess Lichtenau has left us a most interesting anecdote of a young man who was here educated. "A protestant minister at Anspach, named Hoffmann, had nine children, six of whom were deaf and dumb. But one whom nature had not treated with so much injustice, was employed at Berlin in the department of the mines. He waited upon me one day, accompanied by one of his deaf and dumb brothers, described to me the distressing situation of his family; showed me several pictures which this brother had painted, and beseeched me to take him under my protection. I remarked in the works of this unfortunate young man the germ of real talent, and immediately gave him a commission to make me some copies, of which he

acquitted himself admirably, and for which I paid him. His accuracy, zeal, and good conduct having augmented the interest with which he had first inspired me, I settled upon him a fixed salary, and I had shortly the satisfaction of learning that he appropriated the greatest portion towards assisting his poor parents. I then determined on sending him to Dresden, that he might there copy the most rare pictures in that celebrated collection, where he spent nine months in fulfilling, with the greatest intelligence, the commission entrusted to him. He returned to Berlin, and lived honourably on the fruits of his talents and industry. I set off for Italy, and on my arrival wrote to His Majesty, requesting that he would permit Hoffmann to join me, which favour was granted me. Hoffmann repaired to Rome, and there I left him on my departure for Germany. But no sooner did he learn my misfortunes, than he quitted Italy, and came directly to my house at Charlottenburg, and when he became convinced by his own eyes that he had not been imposed upon, but that I was really absent and in captivity, he was seized with phrenzy, and went and threw himself into the Spree; he was saved; but, alas! his reason never returned, and this victim of gratitude afterwards put a period to his existence during a paroxysm of insanity."

In my passage through Dresden I endeavoured to procure a small painting, by this unfortunate Hoffmann, but was not successful in my search. I am happy in having this opportunity of stating a circumstance which does so much credit to the memory of a woman, who has experienced the usual fate of royal mistresses, that of being flattered and worshipped during her prosperity, and reviled and calumniated after her fall. This beautiful woman, the Jane Shore of the Court of Berlin, was ever a

kind and merciful protectress of the poor and distressed. She was certainly the instrument of inflicting much unhappiness on the consort of the late King, but perhaps she was more to be pitied than blamed, as, from all that has been stated on this subject, the fault appears chiefly to have been in the conduct of the King himself, not in that of his mistress, who was a helpless accomplice, instead of an active author of all the mischief imputed to her.

However complicated the causes, certain, however, it is, that Berlin is at this day, (1806), the most dissolute of German cities. An idle garrison of 30,000 men, whatever splendour and magnificence it may add to the court, must diffuse vice and immorality widely amongst the citizens. The punctuality too with which these troops are paid, but ill compensates for the great insufficiency of each individual's pittance, to meet the high charges necessarily attendant on a residence in so expensive and voluptuous a capital. Hence all sorts of disorder arise in the military body, and notwithstanding their boasted discipline, the officers themselves, are accused by the people of not being sufficiently alert in curbing the "spirit of rapine," and excesses of their men. The system too of keeping regiments, quartered in the same town for years together, without once dislocating them, except to attend reviews, although it may be economical, is most adverse to warlike institutions. And indeed so completely disorganised and disaffected had the whole body become, that when the tide of battle poured upon their country, they were found much too effeminate to withstand the fatal energy of that soldiery, which had grown grey in camps, and braved in succession the snows of Mount St. Gothard and the sandy deserts of Egypt. The loss of a single battle, therefore, within their own

territories, proved as disastrous to Prussia as it had been to Carthage, and ere the vultures had been sated on the bloody field of Eylau, the Gauls were already in the capital.

" Sweet, however, are the uses of adversity." Nothing short of so dreadful a lesson, would probably have been efficacious. After draining the bitterest dregs of the poisoned chalice, a new spirit arose throughout the land. The bond of union (Tugenbande) of Kœnigsberg was formed, and the laurels gathered by the regenerated Prussians, on the plains of Quatre Bras and Waterloo, have encircled the cypresses overhanging the tombs of their gallant Prince and beauteous Queen. The stoic virtues of their widowed Monarch, have atoned for the past political profligacy of his cabinet, and Prussia free and enlightened, *may if virtuous*, now become, not the sovereign of Hanover, or the dread of her neighbours, but the seat of real patriotism and honour, and the rallying point of the protestant interests of Germany.

## CHAPTER V.

*Porcelain and Iron Manufactories. — Charlottenburg. — Mittenwalde. — Pine Forests. — Cobalt Works. — Saxon Villages. — Grossenhaym. — Dresden. — Legendary History. — Fatal Consequences from the Acquisition of the Crown of Poland. — The Catholic Church. — High Mass. — Terrace of Count Bruhl. — Zuinger Orangery. — Picture Gallery. — Kœnigstein. — Meissen. — Porcelain Manufactory.*

Since the power derived from steam, for impelling machinery, has become known over Europe, a new impulse has been given to the activity of mankind. The great superiority which this discovery has for many years afforded to Great Britain in the production of various articles of the greatest utility at a surprisingly cheap rate has at length induced our neighbours to extend this improvement to their own manufactories; and in most of the large cities in Germany, steam engines are to be found aiding the ingenuity and talents of the natives. Thus at Berlin the process of manufacturing porcelain has been greatly extended since the introduction of them, and the articles produced are furnished on much lower terms than formerly. The work belongs to the crown, and is carried on under the direction of Mr. Rosenstiel, a native of Alsace; giving employment to 400 workmen. The machinery for pulverising the materials and grinding up the clays, is put in motion by means of a large steam-engine. The argillaceous earth is dug up at Bann-

stœtt near Hall, and the silex is furnished by quartz found at Lomnitz in Silesia. The paste thus produced is good, and the enamelling particularly well executed. Another manufactory has been lately established which does equal credit to Berlin. It is that of cast iron. The royal foundery is situated outside the Orangeburg gate, and produces a great variety of articles of every size and form, from the component parts of an iron bridge down to the smallest trinket. The finish and sharpness given to minute articles is quite surprising; portraits, garlands of flowers, urns, nay even lockets and necklaces are cast here with as much precision as gold, silver, or bronze ornaments. The iron employed is that of Silesia. The process is kept secret, but it is conjectured that a small portion of tin and silver is added to the metals employed for casting the trinkets. Pitcoal is used as fuel in the furnaces; and the minuter objects while warm are rubbed over with a brown varnish, to keep them from rusting. Lastly, the royal palace and park of Charlottenburg are amongst the objects well worth seeing at Berlin. What the late Mr. Windham ingeniously said of Hyde Park and the citizens of London, may be well applied to the park of Charlottenburg, which is the " very lungs" of the Berliners. On Sundays and holidays, all the artists and artisans of Berlin pour forth along the banks of the Spree, to enjoy " the banquet of nature" under the shades afforded by the trees of the royal forest. The spectacle is very beautiful, and I recollect it with a more melancholy pleasure, having then seen for the first and last time the late beautiful Queen of Prussia, walking with her royal consort and his brothers amongst the orange-trees of Charlottenburg, into the garden of which I was introduced by Monsieur Reichard, author of the " Guide des Voyageurs," whose ac-

quaintance I had the pleasure of making, through a letter I carried from Dr. George Pearson of London, to Dr. Brown, physician to the Court of Berlin; in whose absence M. Reichard did the honours of his house, and received me with the greatest hospitality. Having seen as much of the city of Berlin as the shortness of my stay would permit, I obtained a fresh passport from Mr. Jackson, then British minister there, and called at the Custom-house for the sealed parcels. They were stamped with lead, and entries made of them in due form on the back of my passport; for which operation the officers did not forget to exact a very unconscionable fee; besides detaining me for nearly two hours. I then was conducted as before with a file of soldiers on the carriage to the Mittenwalde gate, when the officers on guard having reviewed the sealed articles of luggage and compared them with the passport, pronounced their valedictory address to the postillion, and we set off for Mittenwalde, which we reached at midnight, after a melancholy drive across a dead flat, covered with crops of corn, so thin that the straggling spikes only served the more to reveal the sterility of the sandy soil beneath. At Mittenwalde, a ruinous place with ramparts, drawbridges, &c. &c. we passed a comfortless night in a cold dirty inn, where a Prussian officer, stretched in his camp cloak over a large table, slept and snored so loudly, that partly owing to that nasal solo, and partly to the hardness of my bed, which was only a wooden sofa, I could get little sleep. Before sun-rise next morning, we were again on the road, and after a tedious day's journey through magnificent pine-forests where the burning sands produced a heat in the stagnant atmosphere, which was almost intolerable, we had at length the pleasure of descrying the limits of the Prussian domi-

nions marked out by two posts surmounted with the respective arms of Prussia and Saxony; and entering the territory of the latter Power, bade a long adieu to the black eagles of Prussia. The pine forests through which we passed this day, supply fuel to the works for smelting zaffre or ore of cobalt, carried on at Classdorf, a village near Baruth, where are some large glass-houses for the manufactory of the blue pigment called smalt. This article is produced in large quantities, and has for a long period been a source of great profit to Saxony. Zaffre is a grey powder, formed from heating together in large crucibles, a mixture of impure oxyde of cobalt and silex. If a larger quantity of sand be employed, joined with a vitrifiable flux, a dark blue glass is produced, which on being ground in mills to an impalpable powder, forms the article of commerce called blue *smalt*, of so much importance in giving the fine blue colour to the enamels of porcelain ware. The use of cobalt was long known in China. The Saxons were the first in Europe who discovered the properties of this metal, which they worked and employed with great advantage in colouring the Mismian porcelain. Some veins were subsequently discovered in France, but the Saxons have retained almost exclusively this branch of commerce. Within these last twelve years a mine of cobalt has been found out and wrought on the Spanish side of the Pyrenees, and very lately a vein of great value has been hit upon in Cornwall, but the preparation of smalt has not yet attained any great degree of perfection in England. I understand that a smalt company was lately established in Wales, but the excise laws having been rigidly enforced against the proprietors, as being *preparers of glass*, they were *exchequered* to a very large amount, and were absolutely *ruined* for having had the folly to be foremost in esta-

wooden bridge having then become troublesome, an edifice of stone was built in its stead, and a Gothic castle substituted for the blockhouse in the year 1223. But the splendour of Dresden and the miseries of Saxony, were destined to commence during the reign of Frederick Augustus, who, to obtain that fatal crown of Poland, embraced the Catholic religion, and disjoining his family and kingdom from the Protestant interests of Europe, threw himself into the arms of Austria. The revenues of Poland were then expended in beautifying the capital of Saxony and enriching it with collections and cabinets bought up in the Italian states; but the nobles of Poland and the Jesuits of Italy having soon followed the spoils and treasures of their respective countries, the morals of the Saxons were corrupted in turn, and luxury, taste, and profligacy, became joint tenants of the palaces and gardens of Dresden, Since that time the decline of Saxony has been progressive. Placed unfortunately between two hostile states, Prussia and Austria, and constrained rather by necessity than choice to become a party to their differences, Saxony and its capital have been generally the object and prey of their victories, so that the enjoyments arising from the possession of the treasures of ancient art, have been more than counterbalanced by the visitations of war, the burden of intolerable taxation, and the depopulation of the country, and Saxony now presents the extraordinary anomaly of a Protestant state governed by a Catholic family: a family too, which formerly had the honour of being the foremost in throwing off the degrading yoke of Popish superstition, and in patronizing the doctrines of Luther and Melanchthon. As it belongs to the inconsistency of the human mind to pass rapidly from one extreme to another, the later Monarchs of Saxony have spared

no expence to do honour to the Catholic worship. At the invitation of Augustus the Third, an Italian architect named Chiaveri, was brought from Rome to Dresden to lay the foundations of a church, which, both from the beauty of its architecture and the grandeur of its position on a platform at the end of the Elbe-bridge, has excited the admiration of Germany. This free-stone structure forms an oblong square with semicircular ends, and occupies an area 330 feet in length by 220 in breadth. The bell tower is of beautiful proportions and 450 feet high. The approach is by a flight of steps under a circular peristyle decorated with statues; the roof is covered with copper, and surrounded by a double ballustrade supporting sixty colossal statues of saints. The interior is laid out in one principal church, with four side chapels, and nine altars, and the vaults beneath are appropriated to receive the mortal remains of the Electoral family. The taste of decoration which prevails throughout, is chaste and imposing, and over the principal altar of grey Pirna marble, is the celebrated painting of Raphael Mengs representing the assumption of the Virgin. The altars, baptismal fonts, pulpits, and gallery for the royal family, correspond in symmetry with the surrounding architecture, and constitute altogether a most imposing *coup d'œil*, more particularly during the celebration of high mass, when all the powers of vocal and instrumental music are put in requisition, to captivate the senses. The most choice *soprano* voices of Italy are then to be heard, accompanied by some of the best instrumental performers of Germany; and the richness of the melodies, the full body of sound, and splendour of the surrounding objects, altogether produce an effect which can hardly be described. Every Sunday the Protestant inhabitants

flock in crowds to regale their senses with this delightful treat, which has been got up under the direction of the King's confessor, named Schneider, who is a Jesuit, and perfectly alive to all the ambitious views of his order. The proselytes to the Catholic religion are few, and chiefly from among the courtiers; the lower orders, after hearing the music, always retire as if from an opera-house, and leave the Court to the celebration of the mysteries and imposing rites of Catholicism. The best situation for viewing the bridge and city of Dresden, is from a terrace in the garden of the late Count Bruhl, overlooking the river near a pavillion of the Doric order, where the annual Spring exhibitions of the works of Saxon artists take place. In the garden called the Zuinger, is a fine orangery, consisting of three or four hundred trees, in large tubs, the history of which is singular: they were sent as a present from the coast of Africa, by a Saxon nobleman, to one of the Electors who was fond of the amusement of turning, and for which they had been purposely taken up by the roots; but on their arrival at Dresden, as the vital principle did not appear altogether extinct, they were planted and watered, and (with the exception only of forty or fifty) they all took root and flourished.

The picture gallery of Dresden is a perfect mine of art, which attracts most of the young painters from the neighbouring German States, who, on application to either of the two inspectors, receive free admission to the gallery, and are permitted to make copies of the *chef d'œuvres* it contains. The collection is placed in a quadrangular building called the Marstall, and is composed of nearly 1200 pictures, the works of three hundred and thirty artists of every school. It has been valued at 500,000*l.* sterling, and is now the principal collection out of Italy. It is, however, most

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*Konigstein on the Elbe. Saxony.*

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celebrated as containing six of the best easel pictures of Corregio, for the smallest of which, the Penitent Magdalen, a picture of only 18 inches by 12, Augustus gave the Duke of Modena 13,000 Dutch ducats. The other Corregios are the celebrated Night-piece, or Adoration of the Shepherds; the St. George; the St. Sebastian; and two more. At the time of our visit there were several artists, chiefly females, making copies. The works of Corregio seemed most in request, and also the pictures of Dietriey, a Saxon artist, who was born at Weimar about the beginning of last century, and died at Dresden, while court-painter to the Elector. But a profusion of examples seems as fatal to genius as the reverse, for excepting Dietriey, and a few good enamel painters, Saxony has produced no artists of any celebrity; the students whom we saw seemed to be wasting their time in making minute and laboured copies in sepia or distemper, whether from a want of patronage or of talent and feeling to direct their studies properly, it would be vain to conjecture; but to study from nature seemed to be quite foreign to their plan.

Instead of dwelling upon the cabinets of Dresden, the reader will be, perhaps, better pleased to be made one in a party to the hill fortress of Kœnigstein, which is distant about sixteen miles up the Elbe. After passing through the village of Pirna, memorable for the surrender of the entire Saxon army to Frederick the Great, during the seven years' war, we soon arrived at the foot of the rock on which the castle stands, where we left our carriages, and commenced the ascent. As soon as we reached the first gate, we were challenged by a sentinel posted on the walls above, and after a short delay received permission to approach by a very steep road cut through the "living rock,"

which reminded me of a similar, but smaller path, hewn in the rock of Dumbarton Castle, in Scotland.

Our conductor round the works, was the *Wastsmeister*, an officer who had served in the seven years' war. From the walls we had a magnificent prospect over the surrounding country, with the Elbe winding at our feet, at a great depth. The buildings are placed on the summit of an enormous mass of free-stone, insulated like that of Dumbarton, and hanging over the Elbe, as the latter does over the Clyde. The height is 1800 feet perpendicular, and wherever a weaker spot occurred, the rock has been blasted, and walls added, so as to render escalading impossible. There is no other approach than that beforementioned, and all provisions, ammunition, artillery, stores, &c. are lifted into the body of the fortress by means of a crane and pulleys. The works were commenced during the sixteenth century by the Elector Christian the First; succeeding monarchs have added magazines and bomb-proof casemates, and the present Elector has considerably augmented the defences and accommodations for troops. It is now an impregnable place of deposit for the archives and treasures of Saxony, and commands the passage into Bohemia by the Elbe. We were shown a surprising well which supplies the garrison with water; it is 1700 feet in depth, and four feet in diameter, cut through solid rock, and has generally 80 feet of water standing in it. The sinking of this well was the labour of forty years; it was finished in 1553, since which time the spring has never been known to fail, and is calculated to supply a garrison of 1600 men, which the casemates will contain in the event of a siege. From this well thirty-six buckets of water are daily drawn up by means of a large wheel trodden round by four men;

each draft requiring 800 steps. We drank of its waters in a wooden goblet turned by the hands of the Elector Augustus the First. Within one of the octagon towers is a dining-room occasionally visited by the Electors; it was formerly encrusted with mirrors, but these have been shivered, and partly liquified by the frequent assaults of the electric fluid during thunder storms; the tower has been lately supplied with conducting rods of metal, which have put an end to these disastrous visitations. From a window below we were shown a projecting pinnacle called *pagenbetten*, or the page's bed, to which a singular anecdote is attached. It is recorded that one day while the Elector John George the Second was dining in this tower, Charles Heinrich Van Grunau, one of his pages, having got excessively intoxicated, crept out from a window, and laying himself down upon the edge of the rock overhanging the Elbe, fell fast asleep. The Elector on being shown his perilous situation, first caused him to be well secured by means of ropes, and then to be awakened by a flourish of drums and trumpets; and after permitting him to contemplate the terrific spot on which his intemperance had placed him, he was drawn up in safety to the window. Some years afterwards, this same page had another miraculous escape; for being mounted on a spirited horse, he was passing the Elbe bridge, when the animal took fright and leapt with him into the river. He was again saved, and lived to a very advanced age; for in the year 1740, Grunau, being then in his 102d year, came to pay his homage to Augustus the Second, as he was passing through Bischofswerda on his way into Poland; he died four years afterwards, the 9th December, 1774, at Schmœlen, being then 106 years of age. In the

Orangeburg, we were shown the state prison, in which the unfortunate Chancellor Crell was confined without being interrogated, from 1592 till 1601, when he was removed to the square of Dresden, called the Judenhof and beheaded (5th Oct. 1601). The unfortunate Swedish Minister Patkull had also been imprisoned here in 1704, and suffered a similar death. In an adjoining tower had been immured the celebrated Boetticher. This man, who had been an apothecary at Dresden, boasted that he had discovered the art of transmuting metals; Augustus, King of Poland, had him seized and confined, ordering him to be furnished with all necessary crucibles and other implements, that he might work for the good of the public exchequer. The man was, of course, a notorious impostor; but although unable to produce gold, he discovered the method of making that which has been a source of much wealth to Saxony; namely, the pigments and glazing materials of porcelain ware, which were at that time unknown in Europe, and upon the discoveries of Boetticher, the porcelain manufactory of Meissen was established in 1710. The death of Boetticher took place in 1719.

The Germans are fond of colossal tuns; the great tun of Heidelberg has been long celebrated; that of Konigstein, built in 1725, is less known although much larger, as it is capable of containing 3709 eimers, which is more by 609 eimers than the measure of that of Heidelberg. We ascended to it by a staircase of 32 steps, and drank a glass of its contents, which is good Saxon white wine. Formerly it was kept filled, but now there is a smaller tun suspended within the large one, the *leakage* of which was found to be rather excessive. This fass or tun is 34 feet deep, and 24 feet wide.

In the neighbourhood of Kœnigstein are twelve other insulated rocks, the highest of which called Lilienstein, lies on the opposite bank of the Elbe, and is also 1800 feet high. From some old archives of the 14th century, it would appear that a fortress then occupied the summit which was called the fortress of Ylgenstein. Two of the Saxon monarchs have ascended to its summit, namely, Augustus the First, (July, 1708,) and the present king, who with all his court dined on the top of it in 1771. An obelisk with an inscription, serves to record the first of these royal visits. It stands on a pinnacle on the west side of the rock. The remains of an old flight of steps conducting towards the top, are still to be traced, and an inscription has been found on a well, bearing date, the year of Christ 1499.

On returning from Kœnigstein, we were invited to join a party going to Meissen, a city on the Elbe, twelve miles below Dresden, to which we descended by water. This city, which is the more ancient of the two, now contains only about 4000 inhabitants. It is situated very beautifully upon two hills, overhanging the river in the midst of a rich and delightful valley. There are still the remains of strong walls and fosses, and the architecture of the towers of Wasserburg and of the gates is very ancient and picturesque. The houses are chiefly of stone, but huddled together, and the streets are narrow and winding. The cathedral church, and the Castle of *Albrechtsburg*, are situated on the smaller hill called the Schlossberg or Castle hill, and communicate with the adjoining buildings by means of a fine old bridge of a single arch built by Henry the Illustrious, of Pirna free-stone, the masonry of which is so excellent, that it has now stood 600 years without requiring any repairs. The cathedral, a fine Gothic structure, was finished in

the year 948 by Otho the First, and contains several ancient tombs; but the greatest curiosity belonging to it is a most extraordinary and perhaps unique pinnacle called the *rugged tower*. It is a sort of open worked pyramid, surmounted with a cross, placed upon an octagonal tower, which again reposes upon a square tower, within which, by a staircase of 187 steps, there is an ascent to the top. This extraordinary piece of Gothic architecture appears to be so slightly put together, as to be in danger of falling by the first gale of wind; but such is the nicety of art with which its parts have been adjusted and strengthened by iron chains, anchors, &c. to the foundations in the rock below, that it has now stood in complete preservation nearly one thousand years. The only tower to which it bears a resemblance, is that of Burgos in Spain. Within the church are deposited twenty-two of the Princes of Saxony, of whom eleven are commemorated by monuments. The adjoining Castle of *Albrechtsburg*, is the remaining part of a very old fortress, which formerly contained three palaces, one of which was occupied by the Margrave of Meissen, and each of the other two by the Bishop and Burg-graf or Mayor. It is now filled by the royal manufactory of porcelain, which was placed here in 1710. The clay for this work is procured from the Schneeberg, a mountain in Upper Saxony, and all the enamels and pigments are furnished by the Saxon mines at Freyberg. The ware produced is extremely beautiful, and very reasonable in price, much more so than at Berlin; fine miniature copies of the best antique statues in white biscuit china, are sold for less than twenty shillings British, and other articles in the same proportion. When Frederick the Great entered Saxony during the seven years' war, he was guilty of one of the most unjustifiable abuses of power

towards the workmen of this manufactory ever known; for being desirous of establishing a similar work at Berlin, he seized upon all the artists here, and transported them to his own capital as prisoners of war, and actually forced them to commence a manufactory there.* Modern times have not produced any exercise of the rights of conquest more unjustifiable than this; neither can any unprejudiced mind admit, that the Saxons have deserved the harsh treatment they have lately experienced, at the hands of the Congress of Vienna, a treatment too, which, whatever may be its present effects, I am inclined to think will, at no very distant period, prove the cause of another war in Germany. Even at the moment these sheets are going to the press, the grateful nation to whose grasp our Ministers have consigned one half of the Saxon provinces, are proving their attachment and sense of obligations to Britain, by prohibiting the entry of all British manufactured goods. *Sperate miseri, cavete felices*, should now be the motto of Saxony. A happier epoch is in reserve, and the womb of time will reveal the folly of past measures to many of the cabinets of Europe, not excepting our own.

In taking leave of Dresden, it is melancholy to remark, that its history, in one striking particular, is an exception to that of almost every capital city in Europe, namely, the decrease of the population for the last sixty years. In 1755 the census then taken showed a population of 63,209 individuals. But in 1770 and 1772, it had decreased to 45,000, and since that time has never exceeded 58,000. The mortality now amounts to 1800, one

* One of Miss Edgeworth's beautiful moral tales, "The Prussian Vase," is founded on this circumstance.

in 32, while the marriages do not exceed 400 annually, and every year the number of still-born and illegitimate children is encreasing. The native writers refer this falling off to various causes, such as the dearness of fuel and of provisions, and the host of petty regraters and forestallers who enhance the prices of all the necessaries of life. To the honour of the Saxons, however, it may here be observed, that they are the most loyal people in Germany. Notwithstanding the weight of their taxation; notwithstanding their difference of religion from that of the royal family; in spite of the mistakes of their policy, and the misfortunes which have been heaped on the people in consequence of the real or supposed delinquencies of their governors; there is no nation more sincerely attached to their royal family than the Saxons, and no people that possess more real and genuine patriotism. Dragged into disastrous wars by the imbecility of their ministers, they have suffered all the calamities incident to the occupation and pillage of their country by foreign armies. Still they have borne their misfortunes with a manly and cheerful fortitude, which we may in vain look for in surrounding states. They have given vent to no murmurings, no repinings, no disloyalty, no cowardly evasion either of taxation or privations. Trusting to their own industry, and to the integrity and equity of their individual characters, they have cheerfully put their shoulders to the wheel, and will, ere long, rescue their country from the abyss of distress, in which it is at present plunged, a distress not indeed arising from their own ambition, but from their unfortunate local situation, and the ungenerous conduct of those powers from whom they had a right to expect a very different treatment.

Meissen on the Elbe from the West

Meissen on the Elbe from the East

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## CHAPTER VI.

*Zehist. — Wheel-greasing. — Peterswalden. — The Geyersberg. — Singular accident. — Toeplitz — its superb valley. — Dobrowska-polu. — Palace of Prince Clary. — Prague — its bridge. — Legendary history. — Wissè-gorod. — Libussa. — Premislaus. — Cathedral Church. — University. — John Huss and Jerome of Prague. — Peter Payne. — John Zisca.*

It was at Dresden that I overtook Sir R. Rollo (then Colonel) Gillespie, who was proceeding overland towards India; and having delivered to him some letters, entrusted to my care by his relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Kearney, we agreed to travel together as far as Constantinople, which was to be the termination of my journey. Setting out for Prague in the afternoon of a fine day in August, we changed horses at a village called Zehist, and went through the tiresome ceremony of wheel-greasing, to which, whether your vehicle requires it or not, you are subjected at every post-house in Germany. Soon after wereached Peterswalden, the first stage and custom-house in Bohemia, a miserable straggling village lying in the gorge of a mountainous defile, where the road enters the *Geyersberg*.

Night overtook us while we were crossing this exalted range, so that like two of our predecessors, Lady M. W. Montague and

Mr. Wraxall, we had to lament the absence of light to illumine the beauties of the bold mountainous scenery around us, with the Elbe flowing in the valley below. On a sudden we heard some loud cries, and on our postillion pulling up, found that one of our servants, who followed in another berline behind us, having fallen asleep, had been, by a sudden jolt, thrown out, and pitched headlong down the precipice. This man, a Constantinopolitan Jew, who had travelled with Mr. R. Thornton through the Crimea, as an interpreter, I had permitted, at Mr. T.'s request, to accompany me from Hamburg, but he was such an intolerable smoker, that he was in a perpetual state of stupidity, and was rather an impediment than a furtherance to our journey. In falling, he contrived to cling to some bushes on the steep; and Colonel G.'s servant scrambled down and pulled him up. He was not much hurt, and I afterwards left him at Vienna.

We reached Toeplitz* next morning to breakfast. This town, celebrated for its thermal springs, is, like Bath in our own island, the summer resort of the fashionable valetudinarians of Saxony and Bohemia, who flock thither in multitudes, to lounge, bathe, and gamble. Its waters are said to have been in good repute for the cure of gouty, rheumatic, and paralytic complaints, for upwards of ten centuries; having been discovered some time about the year 762; the springs are seventy-seven in number. By analysis, the waters have been found to contain carbonic acid and sulphurated hydrogen gases, carbonate of lime, iron, muriate of

* Tœplitz — Sclavonic — *Teple*, warm — *itz*, a place or town — the town of warm springs. Thus Teplitz, or Tefliz, in Georgia.

lime and silica. These are the proportions, according to Jahn, a Saxon chemist:

| | *Cubic Inches.* | |
|---|---|---|
| Carbonic acid gas, | 132.5 | |
| Sulphurated hydrog. | 28.5 | |
| Carbonate of lime, | 16.5 | |
| Iron, - - | 3.25 | |
| Muriate of lime, | 61.3 | |
| Silica, - - | 15.4 | from 225.400 grains of water. |

The only peculiarity of these springs is, the large proportion of muriate of lime which they hold in solution. The heat varies from about 98° in some springs, to 110° of Fahrenheit in others. The bathing rooms are very indifferent, small, cold, naked, and comfortless, paved with brick, destitute of carpets, and of every convenience. The best is called the stone bath, which is faced with stone, and lined with sand; the others are small, and badly supplied with water.

The environs of Toeplitz are magnificent. The valley in which it stands is about six miles in extent, surrounded on all sides by screens of lofty mountains, of the most sublime character of beauty, in some parts covered with pine forests, in others gilded with corn-fields or richly coloured with purple heaths, from which the naked pinnacles of rock rise towards the sky. Scattered in the hollows around, are some beautiful villages, such as Hestine, Kraupen, and Marieschin. Hanging over the town, is a rocky mount, crowned by a ruined castle, called, *Dobrowska-polu*, which was one of the strong holds of that mysterious and unfortunate order, the Knights Templars. The town belongs to Prince Clary, who has a country house in the neighbourhood. The adjoining forests of his domain, are

a retreat for wild boars, the hunting of which, is a great source of amusement to the loungers at Toeplitz.

The road from thence to Prague, passes through a very deep or hilly country; so that, although the distance is only fifty miles, we did not reach that city until the forenoon of the next day. The name of Prague seems to have been recorded in characters of blood; the battles and sieges of which it has been so often the theatre, make it in a degree more familiar to one's imagination than that of most other German towns. Its aspect is forlorn and dreary: wide deserted streets, dirty Jews, and begging monks, ruinous palaces, and mouldering Gothic churches, are the first objects to greet a traveller's eye on his entrance; and the cheerless apartments of the inn called the Archduke Charles, will not dissipate the unfavourable impression thus produced. Prague has derived its name from the great bridge over the river Moldau, "Prag" being the town of the Brig or "the bridge" by eminence. This structure is 1800 feet long, and 35 feet broad, the arches are 24 in number. The battlements are ornamented with thirty-two statues of saints, and at each end is a high Gothic tower of handsome architecture. The date of the first erection of this bridge is unknown, but it appears from a Latin inscription in capitals, at one end, that it was rebuilt by Charles the Fourth in 1357, and again by Joseph the Second in 1784. "*Carolus Quartus Augustus pontem extruxit, Anno Christi*, 1357, *vetustate vitiatum; et fluminis glacie devolventis, Anno* 1784 *pene dirutum, Josephus Secundus Augustus instaurari, novisque substructionibus muniri jussit.*"

The rust of ages has covered the origin of Prague with traditions, romantic and fabulous as those of Rhæa Sylvia with her twins,

A Prague.

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Romulus and Remus, and the she-wolf of the Roman capital. Lybussa, a sorceress, the youngest of the three daughters of a shepherd-king named Croc, governed the surrounding country for fourteen years, and held as her palace, a strong hold on a rock which overhangs the river, where are still some ruins and a church occupying the site of what is called Wisse-gorod or "the secure castle." Having been entreated by her subjects to marry, she fixed her choice on a country labourer named Premislaus, who being taken, Cincinnatus like, from his plough to share the throne, carried his sandals with him, to be preserved as memorials of his humble origin, and to be shown occasionally to his descendants, that they might not be over elated with the prosperity of their condition. He enlarged Prague, if he was not actually its founder, and with the exception of a rebellion amongst his Amazonian subjects, on the death of his queen, when he narrowly escaped the fate of Orpheus, he reigned peaceably till his death, which happened without violence. On his death-bed he ordered his shepherd's cloak and sandals of lime-tree-bark to be deposited in a religious edifice, and to be shown only on the election of a king, which custom has been sacredly observed, not only by the Pagan but even the Christian successors to the crown of Bohemia.

The cathedral church of Prague is a fine old Gothic building, beautifully placed on the steep side of the western hill overlooking the river and bridge and the greatest part of the city. It suffered severely from the bombardment of the Swedish army during the thirty years' war, and the mischief then done still remains unrepaired. We were shown, in its aisles, the gorgeous tombs of a long line of monarchs, and the relics of a host of

saints, not forgetting the miraculous arm bone of St. Vitus, the patron of Bohemia, which was brought with much care from Rome, by the Emperor Charles the Fourth, who begged it as a favour from the Pope. Another personage of great note in the annals of Prague, is named Horsemir. This gallant Knight of Bohemia, flying from his enemies, made his horse bound at one leap from the castle mount, across the entire city bridge and river. Near the door of the cathedral, is an equestrian statue of this Bohemian Perseus, equipped in complete armour, bestriding his Pegasus. From the pedestal at his feet, flows a stream of pure water, which is received into a circular basin beneath. Over the centre arch of the bridge, is the statue of St. John Nepomuc, whom King Winceslaus caused to be thrown into the river, for having refused to reveal the confession of the queen to her jealous husband. Nepomuc is the patron saint of Prague, and wards off the inundations of the river Moldau. The university of Prague was founded by Charles the Fourth, in 1347. It was the first in Germany, and was attended at one time by 40,000 students, who rushed in such crowds from the lecture rooms, that a bell used to be sounded a quarter of an hour before the classes were dismissed, to give notice to the inhabitants to leave the streets clear. Within forty years after its foundation, appeared the two constellations of Bohemia, John Huss, and Jerome of Prague, the successors of Wickliffe, and forerunners of Luther.

The marriage of Richard the Second of England, to Anne daughter of the Emperor Charles the Fourth, and sister of Winceslaus King of Bohemia, had created a free intercourse between these two countries. On the death of this Queen,

which happened in 1394, many of her attendants returned to Prague, and carried with them (printing being then unknown) manuscript copies of the writings of Wickliffe "the Morning Star of the Reformation," whose doctrines the deceased Queen had particularly patronized. About the same time one *Peter Payne*, an Englishman, who was principal of Edmund-Hall, Oxford, was forced to fly from England by the Carmelite friars, whose idleness and beggaries he had strongly censured. Payne also repaired to Prague, and helped to propagate the opinions of Jerome: and, indeed, so much were Wickliffe's writings relished in Prague, that when Strynko, the Archbishop, caused all he could collect to be publicly burnt, upwards of 200 copies, adorned with costly covers and golden bosses, belonging to the Bohemian nobles, were consigned to the flames.

The constancy and firmness of mind with which John Huss met his death excited the astonishment and admiration of the beholders; when the faggots were piled up to his neck, the Duke of Bavaria, who was present, was officious enough to desire him to abjure. "No!" said Huss, "I never taught any doctrine of an evil tendency, and what I taught with my lips I now seal with my blood." Jerome of Prague, his friend and disciple, but superior in talent and eloquence, had at first subscribed to the condemnation of his master's doctrines; but having learnt the magnanimity with which Huss had met his fate, he was ashamed of enduring life on such terms, retracted publicly, and was also sent to the stake. Poggio Bracciolini, of Florence, secretary of Pope John the 23d, and one of the first restorers of literature, who was present at his interrogatory and punishment, says, that Mutius Scævola did not burn his hand off with

greater constancy than this man endured the consuming of his whole body, and that Socrates did not swallow the poisoned contents of his cup with more cheerfulness than he mounted the pile of faggots. "*Quum lictor ignem post tergum ne id videret injicere vellet; 'huc' inquit 'accede, et in conspectu accende ignem; si enim illum timuissem, nunquam ad hunc locum, quem fugiendi facultas erat, accessissem.' Hoc modo vir præter fidem egregius est consumptus; et singulos actus inspexi.*" Such is the power of enthusiasm, such the strength of mind inspired by the consciousness of dying in a just cause; such too was the glorious feeling with which the blind Zisca was inspired, who, rising like a phœnix, from the ashes of Huss and Jerome, spread the vengeance of heaven over the kingdoms of those princes who, by suffering their safe conducts to be violated by the Council of Constance, had become the cowardly accomplices of these legalised murders. It is affecting even at the present day to stand on an eminence amid the ruined citadel of Prague, and survey the scenes of those religious wars. But after contemplating with due reverence the Videchon, the Wisse-gorod, and the Chapel of Emmaus, where the bones of the Hussite leaders repose, it is not a little mortifying to view the parapets of that bridge, so often the scene of their triumphs, now covered with a long line of gilt and varnished statues, and to reflect that in Bohemia, where so much blood has flowed in defence of liberty of conscience, the superstitions of the Catholic Church have extinguished even the semblance of religious freedom; and that the advancement of the human mind has been cramped and retarded by the benumbing influence of bigotry and error. The seat of government has been transferred to Vienna, and learning has fled to

more favoured regions; the university of 40,000 students can now scarcely boast the attendance of 400 ragged boys, and desolation fills up the vacancies of a metropolis which once gave the law in morals, science, and politics to the rest of the German empire. The arts still linger, but it is only to trace the reliques of past magnificence, or to bewail the loss of those treasures of which their city was despoiled by the barbarous Swedes.

## CHAPTER VII.

*Catholic monuments. — Field of battle near Collin. — Czeslau. — The tomb and epitaph of John Zisca. — Hussite warfare — its resemblances to that of the ancient Cimbri. — Carragos — still formed in Spain; — Jenikau. — Steindorff. — Reisengebirge. — Znaym. — Funeral procession of the Emperor Sigismund.*

At a short distance from Prague and the banks of the Moldau, the fields assume a novel aspect, and the traveller perceives the increasing influence of a more southern climate, in the change of the vegetable productions around him. Crops of wheat, rye, and barley, here give place to lofty maize, and to the mantling tendrils of the vine, waving over the shelving sides of the roads, intermixed with the deep orange-coloured blossoms of the melons and other cucurbitaceous plants. From time to time, the doors of ample wine-caves meet the stranger's eye along the highway, remote from human dwellings; crucifixes and bleeding saints crown the pinnacles of the bridges, or terminate the vistas of intersecting passes, while every object reminds him of the culture, manners, and habits of the South. Amidst these peaceful labours of the Bohemian peasants, ever and anon the postillion touches his hat, to recall the remembrance of the well contested field; thus, between Planca and Collin, in passing some extensive downs, he pointed out to us a lone farm-house, from the windows of which, Frederick the Great directed the movements of the

Prussian army, in the action which he lost against the Austrians under General Dhaun.

But it was at Czeslau, a poor village of about three hundred houses, that we stopt to contemplate the tomb of perhaps a greater man than even Frederick himself. It is that of the blind Zisca, who lies interred in the village church; his extraordinary career having been terminated by the plague, on the 6th of October 1422, in the neighbouring castle of Priscow, when on his way to give a meeting to Sigismund, King of Bohemia. The epitaph over his tomb runs thus: the Hero speaks:

" I John Zisca, descended from the noble house of Trusnow, in Bohemia, not inferior in military skill to any leader or general, a severe avenger of the pride and avarice of the clergy, and a strenuous defender of the rights of my country, here lie interred.

" Whatever 'the blind' Appius Claudius by wise counsel; whatever Marcus Furius Camillus, by intrepid conduct, achieved for the Romans, that also I performed for my countrymen the Bohemians. Never was I wanting to the fortune of war, neither was that fortune ever wanting to me; I foresaw, although blind, every favourable opportunity for action. In eleven engagements I came off ever victorious. It was manifest to me that I well sustained the good cause of the hungry and the poor, against the delicate, fat, and pampered prelates of Rome, and on that account experienced the favour of the Deity; and had not the envy of my enemies stood in my way, I should no doubt have merited the glory of being reckoned amongst the most illustrious of mankind. Nevertheless, my bones are deposited in this consecrated ground, without the permission and in spite even of the Pope."

" *Joannes Zisca ex nobili Trosnoviorum apud Bohemos fami-*

*lia nulli Imperatorum, Ducumque rei militaris peritia inferior, superbiæ simul et avaritiæ clericorum severus ultor, patriæque acerrimus propugnator, hic jaceo!*

*" Quod Appius Claudius cœcus bene consulendo, quod Marcus Furius Camillus strenuè agendo, suis Romanis præbuere, hoc ipsum Bohemis meis præstiti. Fortunæ belli nunquam defui neque illa mihi, omnem opportunitatem rerum bene agendarum etiam cœcus prævidi. Signis collatis undecies semper victor depugnavi. Visus sum mihi esurientium, optimam causam adversus delicatos pingues et saginatos sacerdotes egregiè egisse, et ob hoc Dei auxilium sensisse; nisi illorum invidia obstaret, inter illustrissimos numerari procul dubio meruissem. Tamen ossa mea hoc sacrato loco cubant, etiam insalutato et invito Papâ."*

The contagious malady which caused the death of Zisca, must no doubt have prevented his followers from executing the wish he expressed when dying, that his skin should be flayed from his corpse and extended on a drum, that he might strike his foes with terror, even when his body had descended to the grave, thus displaying the ruling passion strong even in death. Æneas Sylvius, then Nuncio from the Pope to the Emperor of Germany, has left us a faithful picture of the Hussite warfare, and on reading its details one cannot but be forcibly struck with the resemblance it bears to that waged by their ancestors the Cimbri of old, against the Roman legions under Marius, as described by Plutarch. " After the death of Zisca," says the historian Æneas Sylvius, " the Hussites entered rarely into walled cities, except to purchase those articles of which they stood in need; but formed one immense encampment, in which they dwelt with their wives and children. For this purpose they

were provided with a vast number of waggons, which served them both for houses and ramparts. When obliged to fight, they disposed their arms crosswise in a sort of *chevaux de frise*, outside the *carrago*,[6] or circle formed by their waggons, and inclosed their infantry in the centre. When the combat had actually commenced, the drivers of the waggons advanced by slow degrees, and surrounded the squadrons or battalions of the enemy according to the signals given by their leader. The enemy being thus surrounded and cut off from their own succours, were either cut to pieces by the infantry, or pierced by the arrows of the men and women who rode in the waggons. The cavalry fought outside of this circle, and whenever they found themselves hard pressed, the waggons opened out and permitted them to come withinside, where they could fight under cover, as behind high ramparts. By these means they gained several victories, because the neighbouring nations which attacked them were unacquainted with this manner of fighting."

The same mode of arranging waggons I have remarked to prevail at this day in Spain. The officers who served with the British army there must frequently have seen the convoys of suranos, when transporting provisions to our camp towards night-fall, driving their vehicles into a circle, and after having unyoked their oxen and permitted them to range at pasture, kindle a fire in the centre of their *carrago*, round which they sung, caroused, or reposed during the night, secure from the attacks of wolves and wild beasts. By day-break they whistled their oxen back to the yokes, and uncoiling the circle, like a huge snake, the leading oxen moved along the highway.

Between Janikau and Steindorf, we passed over a barren mountainous country, with the Alpine summits of the Reisen-

gebirge, or Giant's mountain, skirting the horizon on our left. The elevation of these peaks is such, that although distant at least forty miles, their snowy summits glittered high among the clouds.

We entered Moravia at Iglau, a ruinous old town amidst the mining district, where we stopped for some hours, and then proceeded by five dreary stages, to Znaym, the capital town of the province. This is a large place, with wide streets, and a good clean market-place, seated on the slope of a hill. The ruins of a castle, and the vestiges of a Roman temple, are still pointed out to travellers. Znaym is also noted in German history, for the affecting spectacle presented here after the unfortunate Emperor Sigismund breathed his last, in the 70th year of his age. When the funeral procession of the Emperor moved off towards Hungary, the widowed Empress Barbara, followed his hearse, not as a mourner, but as a state prisoner in shackles, and surrounded by an armed band of her own subjects. Æneas Sylvius, in his history of these times, has described this extraordinary spectacle, characterising the Empress Barbara as another Messalina. "*Mulier inexhaustæ libidinis quæ inter concubinos illaudatum ævum publice agitans, sæpius viros petiit quam peteretur.*"

From Znaym in six more posts we arrived at Vienna late in the evening, and took up our residence at a hotel near the Kohl markt.

## CHAPTER VIII.

*Vienna.—St. Stephen's Church.—Tombs of Prince Eugene.—Cuspinianus.—Joseph the Second.—Church of the Augustines.—Canova's monument.—Ephesian tomb.—Literary and Scientific Establishments.—Population.—Arsenals.—Cara Mustapha's head.—Austrian Generals.*

Travellers of every nation, seem to have vied with each other in proclaiming the many charms of this delightful capital, which surpasses in attractions all its German rivals. The beauty of its sylvan environs, the richness of its public collections, the attractions of its opera, theatres, and public amusements; the abundance and cheapness of its markets, the magnificence of its buildings, and the hospitality and affability of its inhabitants; all contribute to distinguish most pre-eminently the capital of the Austrian States. The commercial man might prefer Hamburg; the military parade of Berlin possesses attractions for the soldier; the artist and mineralogist would probably tarry at Dresden; but he whose pursuits are the acquisition of general knowledge, and the charms of society, would abandon all those cities for Vienna. Every liberal pursuit may be here indulged, every taste cultivated and improved, knowledge and science acquired, and the moments unoccupied by study or business, agreeably passed in the very best society. Is he fond of Gothic architecture? he may muse amidst the aisles and cloisters of the church of St. Stephen, one of the finest specimens of art in

Germany: Is music his delight? the orchestra of the Imperial opera will gratify him to the utmost: Do sylvan beauties please him? the retreats of the Prater along the banks of the Danube afford the finest ranges for picturesque excursions: Is painting dear to him? the Imperial gallery offers him 1300 pictures of every school, from the infancy to the very perfection of art: while the Imperial library will gratify his taste for study, and the collection of antiques arranged by the science of a Winkelmann will instruct and accomplish him. He may study the art of war amidst the arsenals and fortifications of the city, and acquire in turn, every science within a circle not exceeding the area of St. James's Park.

The building to which the steps of a stranger are generally first directed, is the church of St. Stephen. Its beautiful spire, covered with fret-work, attracts his eye from a distance, while its roof, distinguished by the finest mosaic tiling, proudly towers far above the surrounding edifices. A late illustrious writer, the accomplished female who has preceded us in that path which we must all shortly tread, has very justly remarked that this church is in some respect or other closely connected with every period of the history of Austria. The Princes who founded or adorned it sleep within its vaults, and the heroes* who have defended, or the sages† who have added lustre to the Austrian name have obtained as a last recompence a resting place within its walls. The sounds of the great bell strike upon your ear; the very bronze which calls you to prayer once battered the walls of the city, and the bones of the soldier whose valour achieved its conquest lie interred beneath the marble upon

* Prince Eugene of Savoy. † Spiesshammer, and Conrad Celtes, the poet.

which you carelessly tread. The earliest historian of Austria fills the contiguous vault; and the marble tablet will inform you that philosophy, history, and poetry, united to display the understanding and talents of Joannes Cuspinianus*, the friend, historian, and physician of the Emperor Maximilian the First. Even the Roman inhabitants of Vindobona have mingled their dust on this consecrated spot; and the tombs of Publius Titius and of Conrad Celtes in the adjoining cloister, display in affecting emblems, the caducity of human life, and the proud yet fading trophies of genius and power.

Not far from St. Stephen's, the church of the Augustines reveals the beautiful tomb of the Archduchess Maria-Christina, equally interesting as a tribute of exalted affection, and delightful as an effort of human ingenuity. While the beauty of the groupe depositing the funeral urn in the deep recesses of the silent pyramid, calls forth our sympathy for the deceased; the certainty of a future state is awakened by the divine genius recumbent on the steps, and the angels spreading branches of palm trees around the medallion of the archduchess, encircled by serpents, the emblem of immortality. Much as you feel for the disconsolate Prince, whose loss is testified in the laconic inscription, of "Albert to the best of wives," still you glory in the genius of the artist Canova, who, by the magic touch of his chisel, could so ably embody the pensive lesson which it is calculated to convey. Nor could such a memorial be more aptly placed than in the church of the Augustines, or over the vaults containing the enshrined remains of seventy members of the Imperial

* Spiesshammer — latinized into Cuspinianus, according to the absurd fashion of his age.

family of Austria. Those very surrounding walls have re-echoed to their nuptial benedictions and the murmurs of their funeral anthems. More than once the blooming bride has only retired to return in a few months a corpse on the fatal *Catafalque*, and the notes of joy or of sorrow have alternately arisen from a crowd of attending minstrels, or weeping subjects. Well too have the princes of Austria merited the tears of their subjects; nobly did the philanthropic Joseph earn the colossal statue their gratitude has erected to his memory. Look around on the charitable foundations created during the reign of that excellent, wise, and tolerant prince; compare the transactions of his life with those of any of the contemporary monarchs of Europe, and then refuse him, if you justly can, that modest title which he gloried in adding to his name, "the friend of the human race."

All the grand benefits that England owes to her Henry the Eighth, acting from the selfish dictates of a proud and voluptuous mind, did Austria receive from the force of religion, reason, and humanity, acting upon the correct and benevolent understanding of her Joseph the Second. He expelled the Jesuits, and turned out the inhabitants of two thousand convents, but it was only to convert the funds which these drones and perverters of religion so iniquitously expended, into the support of the needy, and to alleviate the real and unavoidable miseries of humanity. Previous to his accession, the indigent sick of Vienna were frequently suffered to expire in the streets; to prevent these scenes of distress, he founded an hospital containing two thousand beds. Prior to this event, child-murder and the exposing of infants were frequent crimes; to prevent the perpetration of which, he founded a lying-in-hospi-

tal; its doors were ever open to all distressed females requesting admission. They are not even obliged to reveal their names, but only to have them written in a sealed note on their bosoms; which is never examined unless in cases of death. In Vienna, then, the crime of child-murder is altogether unknown, since the establishment of a Foundling Hospital in 1785.

The same humane spirit which dictated these charities, erected an hospital for the reception of lunatics, a place of retreat for lame and wounded soldiers, and an asylum for the distressed and destitute poor. In addition to these benevolent institutions, he suppressed all religious pilgrimages, restrained within due limits the arrogant and unjust pretensions of the Papal power, as exercised within his dominions, equalised the livings and revenues of the bishops and clergy of the Catholic church, tolerated the exercise of all other religious worships, not excepting Mahommedanism, abolished feudal vassalage, endeavoured, but unsuccessfully, to equalise the land tax, and, although himself illiterate, patronised both literature and the arts, from a conviction of their humanising influence, encouraged and protected commerce and all useful and laudable speculations, and as far as his natural powers of mind or limited acquirements would permit, did every thing that a Prince could do, to advance his people in virtue, comfort, and social happiness: and, indeed, if we except only the despotic establishment of military conscription, there was no measure of internal regulation, devised by Joseph the Second, which was not equally wise and beneficent.

The literary establishments in this city, are upon the same grand scale as the charitable foundations. Adjoining to the gallery leading to the church of the Augustines, is the imperial

library, contained in a fine building designed by a German architect named Fischer of Erlach. It has two entrances, one reserved for the court, communicating with the palace, the other opening upon the *Joseph-platz*, where is situated the colossal equestrian statue before alluded to. This library is thrown open to the public every day, Sundays and holidays only excepted, in the summer-time from eight in the morning, and in the winter one hour later. Excepting the Vatican library, it is allowed to be the first collection in Europe. The statues and busts of Charles the Sixth, and a long line of descendants who have contributed to these literary treasures, adorn the halls. Amidst them, a very distinguished object is a large tomb of Parian marble of exquisite workmanship, and in good preservation, presented to this library by Count Maximilian de Fugger, a commander of the Teutonic order. That distinguished nobleman after serving with reputation in the celebrated battle of Lepanto, undertook a journey into Asia Minor, and having discovered this superb relique in the neighbourhood of Ephesus, was so fortunate as to succeed in bringing it to Vienna, and generous enough to present it to the public. The subject represented in basso relievo, is the combat of Theseus with the Amazons of Sarmatic Asia, reputed to have been the founders of Ephesus. Near it are several Etruscan vases, one of which Winckelmann has caused to be engraved in his collection of "*Monumenti Antichi Inediti*," and which that distinguished critic has pronounced to be the most beautiful extant. The manuscripts of this library alone, amount to twelve thousand, in all languages, and are preserved in two separate rooms, connected with the main hall, which are warmed during

winter by large stoves; implements of writing are freely furnished to all those who come for the purpose of study or of making extracts.

The Emperor Maximilian the First had the honour of commencing this establishment, in 1498, and employed his confidant Joannes Cuspinianus or Spiesshammer, in making the necessary arrangements. In 1662, during the reign of Leopold, it already contained eighty thousand volumes. Charles the Sixth erected the building, and threw it open to the public. On the death of Prince Eugene of Savoy, his library, amounting to 15,000 volumes, was added by Joseph the Second, including a magnificent collection of prints; and the cabinet of portraits made by the superintendent Fouquet, being afterwards united to these, the series of prints and engraved portraits is now the most complete in Europe, consisting of 26,000 pieces, and filling 737 volumes.

On coming to the throne, the Empress Maria Theresa had added the library of her father, besides several other collections which were purchased for her by Van Swieten, including that of the Baron Stosch. And Van Swieten being afterwards appointed its conservator and director, bestowed every diligence during a period of twenty-seven years, not only to add to it, but to complete the deficient works by the acquisition of many thousand volumes; purchasing also from the Oriental press of Ibrahim Effendi at Constantinople every work which appeared; so that it now amounts to above 300,000 volumes. One hall alone is filled with early books, printed between the years 1457 and 1500.

But amongst the distinguished individuals who have promoted the cause of literature in Austria, the name of Busbequius ought to stand very prominent. The collection made by that great and excellent man during his embassies in Turkey, between the years 1555 and 1562, comprehending many precious manuscripts and ancient and rare medals, constituted the foundation of the rich collection of Oriental literature which Vienna has now to boast. But these treasures would probably have been overlooked and forgotten, had it not been for the talents of M. Hammer, who stands distinguished as probably the first Oriental scholar at this time in Europe. By his exertions and that of an Oriental society which he had the honour of founding, all the MSS. and objects connected with the literature of the East, have been arranged and classed together, and Vienna possesses at this time some of the best Oriental linguists in Europe, such as Alexandides, Chabert, Dombay, Gautz, and lastly, Frederick Schlegel, whose writings on dramatic literature, have of late become so favourably known in Great Britain.

Nor should the name of Van Swieten be here omitted in the list of the philanthropists of the Austrian States, for in a country where the name of Howard is dear, every lover of mankind must be respected, and Van Swieten possesses high claims on our admiration. Having obtained the confidence of his Sovereign Maria Theresa, as well on account of his talents as a physician, as of his virtues as a man, this generous individual employed his ascendancy neither in enriching his family nor in acquiring Court influence, but in directing the streams of royal bounty, into channels which might be generally useful to mankind, and in

founding a school of medicine, in the establishment of hospitals for the sick, in the diffusion of knowledge, and in works of charity and mercy. The university of Vienna, founded by the Emperor Frederick the Second, in 1237, had been surrendered to the Jesuits in 1662, by Ferdinand the Second. On the dissolution of that ambitious order in 1752, Maria Theresa, yielding to the urgent representations of Van Swieten, resolved to reform the mode of conducting medical education within her States, and granted the Baron not only the university buildings, but a considerable sum of money to carry the plan into effect. Van Swieten lost no time in laying the foundations of a large building in 1753, which was completed in three years, during which period he gave lectures to the students in the vestibule of the Imperial library. The botanical garden was enlarged and given in charge to M. Langier ; De Haen was appointed Clinical lecturer, and the talents of Doctors Storck and Crantz were called in to aid the rising school. Free admission, and leave to transcribe and take notes from the books and manuscripts in the library, were extended to all applicants ; the salaries of the professors were at the instance of the Baron increased, by order of the Empress, and the interests of learning were promoted in a degree before unknown throughout the Austrian dominions. Afterwards Joseph the Second added an anatomical collection, and enriched it by the purchase of the beautiful preparations of Ruysch, Albinus, and Liebeckün ; and the school of botany had the honour of bringing forward the talents of Jacquin and Host. The school of military surgery owes its foundation to Joseph the Second, who, at the instigation of his surgeon Bambilla, and aware of the great want of good surgeons in his army, followed up the example set by

the King of Prussia, and took that of Berlin for his model. This seminary enjoys numerous privileges, grants the degree of Doctor in Surgery, and is under the immediate direction of the Council of War. It contains a fine collection of anatomical preparations, a good library, a botanic garden, and a cabinet of natural history; and to complete the establishment, a military hospital of twelve hundred beds, where the pupils may learn their profession by the bedsides of hurt and wounded soldiers. The building that was formerly the college of the Jesuits is now occupied by the Academy of Fine Arts, composed of six classes. The first is dedicated to historical painting, the second to sculpture, the third to architecture, the fourth to landscape painting, the fifth to engraving, and the sixth to the mechanical arts connected with design. This academy was founded by the Emperor Leopold, and afterwards augmented by Joseph the First and Charles the Sixth; but Maria Theresa and her son had the satisfaction of increasing the appointments of the professors, and of placing the institution on its present respectable footing.

Belonging to this academy at present are, thirty-five historical painters, fifteen landscape painters, eight animal painters, four painters of flowers, thirty-one painters of portraits, fourteen painters in miniature, ten painters of heraldry, twenty sculptors, twelve engravers of medals, four engravers in ivory, ten engravers of seals, six modellers in wax, fifteen architects, and twenty-six engravers of copper-plates.

These artists are supported by a population of 230,000 inhabitants. At the time of the last census the numbers within the walls were estimated at 46,437, and the sum total, including the thirty-three suburbs, at 224,092, of which

amount there was a very remarkable excess in the female population of not fewer than eleven thousand five hundred and fifty-four. The garrison of Vienna is generally 12,000 men, being double that of Dresden, and only one-third as numerous as that of Berlin.

Since 1768, the population of Vienna has been continually augmenting, in consequence of the great influx of emigrants from Italy, the Low Countries, Holland, Poland, Switzerland, and the German States. But at the same time the ratio of mortality has been constantly exceeding in a great proportion, without any very evident causes, unless it be that the area of the buildings is too limited for the density of the population. Thus in 1786, the annual mortality was from nine to ten thousand persons; but sine 1790, the numbers have successively augmented to thirteen thousand and fifteen thousand, or even sixteen thousand every year: a mortality far beyond the increase of population. In general, the mortality is now one in fifteen annually; whereas in London it is only one in thirty; and at Vienna the instances of longevity are equally rare, in comparison. Thus, at Vienna, with all its delights, human life is exposed to double the risk to which it is subjected in London. Whether this arises from the gluttony in which the inhabitants are proverbially stated to indulge, I know not. The climate is assuredly very variable, frequently changing in the course of only a few hours, from the extreme of heat to that of cold; and the air of Vienna, unless ventilated daily by a breeze about two hours before mid-day, is said to become pestilential — "*Aut ventosa aut venenosa Vindobona,*" is an old adage. The spring water also is insalubrious, being apt to occasion bowel complaints to strangers, and the water

of the Danube is thick and muddy, so that it cannot be drank unless filtered.*

From a consideration of the frail tenure of human life, the transition is natural to that of the instruments used for its destruction, and the three arsenals of Vienna supply these in all their sad variety. The grand arsenal situated upon the Hohe Brucke, built by Maximilian the Second, well merits inspection, from the very extraordinary nature of its contents, particularly the trophies of Prince Eugene's victories, consisting of four enormous pieces of Turkish cannon. One of these, bearing date 1516, was taken at Belgrade in 1717; it weighs 179 quintals, and can throw a ball of 124 pounds weight; another founded in 1560, weighs 117 quintals, and will throw a ball of 60 pounds weight. Near these are two *stone pieces*, one of which throws a stone ball of four hundred weight and upwards, and the other one of two hundred and fifty pounds weight. There is also an iron mortar of an enormous calibre, begirt closely with iron hoops, each two inches thick, and another very large bronze mortar inscribed *Sigismundus Archidux Austriæ*, 1404. Besides these, are several pieces of cannon calculated for balls of 70, 48, and 36 pounds. Encircling the external walls, is a prodigious chain twelve hundred feet in length, each link weighing 24 pounds. This is merely a fragment of a chain which the Turks had thrown across the Danube, near Buda in Hungary, to keep off the Austrian gun-boats. Amongst the remains of ancient armour, is the red velvet cap of Godfrey of Bouillon,

* In the year 1679, the plague which raged in Vienna, carried off 76,921 persons. See *Paul de Sorbach. Consil. Med. de Peste Viennensi*, 1679.

and the buff leather waistcoat of Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden, pierced on the left side with the musket ball which terminated his existence at the battle of Lutzen in Saxony, in 1632. Historians have amused themselves with sage conjectures, whether that King came fairly by his death; omitting that discussion, as not belonging to this place, I would here record the efficacy of silk in repelling a musket shot, in a case which came under my own observation in Spain. A very promising young officer of engineers, with whom I lived in habits of the greatest intimacy and friendship, while he was employed in repairing the breaches at Ciudad Rodrigo, consulted me respecting an obstinate headach and giddiness, which I found was principally occasioned by his wearing a stiff black leather stock. I earnestly recommended him to lay it aside, which he rather tenaciously declined, when, as a further inducement, I told him, that in the event of his substituting a black silk handkerchief, it might one day preserve his life, as silk would certainly turn a ball which might penetrate leather. At length he complied, and as I had predicted, his headaches left him. We soon after separated, he going to the light division, and my station being with that of Lord Hill. The campaign commenced, and in a few weeks I learnt with the greatest grief, that my gallant friend had fallen at the head of the first storming party at St. Sebastian's. I was then stationed at Reynosa, many leagues distant. As I believed him dead, my surprise and joy were great on receiving a letter from him some weeks afterwards, acquainting me, that when on the very glacis, he had been wounded by a musket ball from a man on the walls. He instantly fell, covered with blood, which streamed in profusion from his mouth and nostrils; one of his own corps dragged him immediately into the trenches. He was carried to his

quarters, and his wound, on examination, was pronounced mortal; the ball, not being found, was supposed to have lodged in the vertebræ of the neck. He lived, however, for three days, and no bad symptoms coming on, the surgeons began to doubt the accuracy of their opinions. The sapper, who saw him fall, was examined to ascertain whether he had seen the bullet, which he instantly produced from his waistcoat pocket, saying, that on untying Mr. Reid's silk handkerchief, he found part of it carried into the wound, and using a little force in withdrawing it, the ball came out with it; not a single thread of the silk handkerchief having given way, as appeared on examination. I have since had the pleasure of embracing my friend in good health in Bourdeaux, have subsequently seen his name honourably recorded by Lord Exmouth, for his services at Algiers, and have had the still greater satisfaction of hearing, some short time since, that my friend the Lieutenant is now Major of the Royal Engineers, a rank to which his military talents and conspicuous bravery justly entitled him.

In a glass case, in the arsenal of the towns-people of Vienna is still shown the grim visage of Cara Mustapha, Grand Vizier and Commander of the Turkish army at the last siege of Vienna by the Turks in 1683. The fate of the man whose head is thus carefully preserved, is rather singular. He was a favourite and paramour of the Valide Sultana, and was, by her influence with her son, Mahomet IV. appointed to the first offices of state. Being unfortunate at the siege of Vienna, he was strangled at Belgrade, by order of the Sultan, and his remains were privately interred. But the Austrian troops, on taking that city, dug up his body, and sent his head in pickle to the Burghers of Vienna, as a trophy. Certainly, few heads had ever indulged more gi-

gantic projects of ambition, than Cara Mustapha's. He had entered the Austrian States, as the voluntary leader of more than three hundred thousand men, commanded by five petty sovereign princes, and thirty one pashas, and his train of artillery amounted to three hundred pieces of cannon. His plan was nothing less than to have conquered Vienna, and then subjugated the west of Europe. Fortunately for mankind, his intentions were frustrated by the courage and genius of John Sobiesky, King of Poland, and like many other of his predecessors and successors,

> " He left a name at which the world grew pale,
> " To point a moral, or adorn a tale."

But perhaps the head of Cara Mustapha might be of greater use to the Austrians, would they condescend to take a lesson from their barbarous neighbours, the Mussulmen, and strike off the head of an unfortunate General, from time to time, "*pour encourager les autres*," as a celebrated writer would have it. There is strong reason to suspect that Cara Mustapha was well deserving of his fate, for besides being ignorant in the extreme, as is common with some other Grand Viziers of the present day, he seems to have been a rank coward. There is now before me a little book printed at London, "by Royal command," in 1684, in which, amongst other curious matter, it is stated, on the report of "a Polander," who "got into the town, that the Grand Vizier was carried every three days in an *iron house*, through all their works and approaches." (See *Journal of late Siege of Vienna, p.* 43. *London*, 1684.) The man whose nerves are so weak as to require the silly covering of an iron house, to visit the trenches, has no right to lead other men into danger, and, besides, I cannot help being persuaded that no ge-

neral, or even physician, was ever *uniformly unfortunate* in practice, without being grossly ignorant, and unworthy of confidence. Perhaps no generals were ever more uniformly unfortunate than those of Austria; for a long time, during their late wars with France, battles were lost and posts surrendered in rapid succession, yet in no instance was it ever known that an Austrian General was shot, either for cowardice or treachery. While at Vienna, I heard indeed of some who had been degraded and thrown into the Spielberg, amongst the common felons who sweep the streets of Brunn; I even saw the stains of blood in the floor of a room, which we occupied at the hotel, which the waiter told us had flowed from the heart of a man who had fallen upon his own sword on that spot, a few months before, when he had arrived at Vienna in consequence of a summons from the Emperor to answer for his misconduct. But these were rare occurrences. Some years ago my profession brought me acquainted in London, with a German Ex-General, formerly in the service of the Ex-Emperor of France, who, like Sarrazin, had deserted from his post. While I was in the habit of seeing him, the rapid and unaccountable successes of the French armies in Italy, were often the subject of his conversation. He assured me that when serving under Buonaparte against the Austrians, previously to the peace of Campo Formio, he had frequently been detached to take possession of posts which were surrendered almost without firing a shot. On one occasion he was instructed to go at sunrise to a rising ground near a village, where the Austrians held a strong detachment; on arriving there, he was to display his men, without bringing them within range of shot, and look out for a white cloth, which he was to observe on a tree, in an orchard adjoining the village. If the appointed

signal was shown, he was to proceed, if not, to return without loss of time. He went to the eminence, took out his stop watch and telescope, and within five minutes of the time appointed, he saw a white handkerchief waving from a tree; he proceeded to the attack, and a detachment triple the strength of his own, threw down their arms. The narrator of this story is no more, having died in Spanish Galicia, about the year 1812. I know no cause, therefore, to conceal his name, which was General Merck, and I have still less reason for doubting his veracity on this occasion.[7]

## CHAPTER IX.

*Political reflections. — Van Swieten. — Austrian Magnates. — The Old Abbé.*

The fatal war-storm which soon after deluged the fields of Austerlitz, was silently gathering around the Austrian frontiers, at the time we were approaching Vienna. During our journey to Toeplitz, we had heard at every post-house, nought save the rumours of warlike preparations, and even melancholy prognostications of the calamities which soon followed.

A large camp of observation was forming at Egra in Bohemia, which my companion would willingly have visited, but finding that it would have led us two or three days' journey to the right, and occupied more time than either of us were inclined to spare, the project was abandoned. At Vienna, although the government paper was at a great depreciation, and the foreign exchanges were becoming daily more unfavourable, although the agents of government were buying up in haste horses for the artillery in all quarters, and great magazines of provisions and forage were daily forming, yet no one who was not actually in the secret, could be brought to believe, that the Austrian ministry had determined to decide their differences with France, by an appeal to arms; as it was very generally known that no Government could

well be less prepared for such an alternative. So fully indeed was my companion persuaded of this truth, that he very patriotically but very uselessly devoted most of his mornings to writing long details to his political friends at home, to point out the dangers to which Austria would expose both herself and Europe in general, by the rashness of her conduct. But the die was cast, and the traitor Mack was already named to the command by the recommendation of Mr. Pitt, to the great disgust of the Archduke Charles, and the astonishment of every military man at Vienna, qualified to form a judgment of their respective characters. The recommendation proved disastrous to Austria, as well as to the ill-fated minister with whom it originated; while the traitor of Ulm, as well as the imbecile Prince of Aversperg, instead of suffering on the same scaffold, escaped with a few years imprisonment in the Spielberg. " Yet such things are, and overcome us like a summer's cloud, without our special wonder."

While the preparations for this sad drama were in rehearsal behind the scenes, every thing went on as usual, in the gallery, the boxes and *parquet noble.* *Monsieur le Baron* pledged *Monsieur le Chevalier* to the success of the good cause in Imperial Tokay and Johannis-bergens cabinet, while *Madame la Baronne* flirted at the Sunday evening's opera with *Son Excellence;* the alleys of the Prater were well covered every evening, with three thousand carriages, and the sounds of gaiety and folly resounded as loudly as ever amongst the pedestrians, upon the *Bastions* and the *Graben.* How could it be otherwise? It was the month of August, the weather was most lovely, and painful forebodings seldom affect deeply the inhabitants of that happy capital. " What a pity" said an old Abbé to me one day, " that men should think of killing each other in this fine weather."—" Yes,

but I belong to a different profession." — "So much the better for you, Sir," said an Austrian officer who had been eighteen years a subaltern. — I bowed — We were walking in the garden of the Schoenbrunn. — "Will you visit, Sir," said the Abbé, "the room in which Van Swieten breathed his last, at the age of seventy-two?" — "Most willingly," said my companions, and the conversation terminated.

All the world has heard of Schoenbrunn, and when told that it is a palace as large as Hampton Court, and equally splendid, more need not be added to convey a vague idea to the generality of English readers; it would be more difficult to give them a notion of the church of St. Charles Borromeo, which we passed on our return near the gate of Italy, a building with a cupola and portico with columns, and a flight of steps flanked by two triumphal columns and small arches, which serve as buttresses to the main building.

Near it we inspected some beds of saltpetre, which is prepared in considerable quantities from the rubbish of Vienna. The manufacture also of fish-hooks, needles, crayons, musical instruments, carriages, porcelain, &c., affords lucrative employment to the majority of the labouring classes; and steam engines are coming into play here as well as at Berlin; a needle manufactory, and a work for spinning cotton thread being both turned by them.

Two circumstances particularly engage the notice of a stranger; — the splendour and extravagance of the rich, and the sobriety and good conduct of the poorer classes of the Austrian capital. In Moravia alone, Prince Lichtenstein has above twenty estates, each consisting of twenty or thirty villages, and his income is above 120,000*l.* per annum. Prince Esterhazy's domains produce upwards of 600,000 guilders annually, and

Prince Schwartzenberg, above 400,000. Such, however, is the taste for splendour amongst the grandees, that almost all the nobility exceed their revenues, and become involved. A nobleman having an annual income of five or six thousand pounds sterling, will keep, perhaps, twenty-four or thirty horses, with four or five carriages, a secretary, maître d'hotel, two valets de chambre, two running footmen, two jägers, two or three coachmen, five or six footmen, and a porter. Princes Lichtenstein and Esterhazy also keep in pay a corps of body guards, have a regalia of jewels, court dresses, and give profuse banquets, consuming all their incomes in sensual luxury — *tout pour la tripe, rien pour l'esprit.* — Mere animal life is, generally speaking, the enjoyment of a pampered Austrian. It is very frequently the same in all countries where education and the moral discipline of youth are badly conducted. "What care I for posterity, what has posterity ever done for me?" was the epicurean saying of an Irish magnate. It is the sentiment of the illiterate Russian and ignorant Portuguese. It may once have been common in France, and is becoming but too much known in our own commercial island, since riches are universally the idol of all ranks of people, and liberty and independence of mind are bartered hourly for gold. Read the description of Germany by Tacitus, and compare it with the actual inhabitants, you shall not find one single trait of their ancient character yet lingering amongst them. But the characteristics of La Bruyere's "Giton" are exactly that of an Austrian Baron, and seem to have been drawn from the life — they present the man himself. "Giton has a rosy colour, full visage, and pendant cheeks. His eye is fixed and confident, his shoulders large, his stomach prominent, his walk firm and deliberate, he speaks with confidence, he makes the person who addresses him repeat his sen-

tences, and rarely approves any part of his discourse; he spreads out an ample handkerchief, blows his nose very loudly, spits to a distance, and sneezes with a great noise; he sleeps in the day-time, he sleeps at night, and soundly, he belches in company." &c. &c.

During the late war the dearth of intellect and energy of mind amongst the nobility of Austria, had nearly proved fatal to their country, and its proofs may be collected on glancing over their military history for the last century. Amongst their generals of talent, few are to be found who were natives of Austria; and as no persons of plebeian rank were then admitted to command, the imbecility of the noblesse was the more felt.

The grand defect of character, however, amongst the nobility of Austria is, want of confidence in their own abilities. This distrust must arise either from a consciousness of incapacity, or too high an estimate of the powers of their opponents. Perhaps its source is to be found in deficiency of mental culture, and the inadequacy of public education. For talent being in all countries nearly equal, the power which should develope it is alone most frequently deficient.

But amongst the Austrian nobles many very honourable exceptions may no doubt be found, men highly gifted and well educated, generous encouragers of arts and sciences, and in every respect calculated to advance their country in the scale of civilization. Such, no doubt, have been the ancestors of the Lichtenstein family.[8]

## CHAPTER X.

*The Prater. — Stammersdorf. — Nicholsburg. — Brunn. — The Spielberg. — Austrian Manufactures. — Olmutz. — The Haunacks. — Hernhutters. — Firdeck. — Carpathian Mountains. — Silesia. — Teschen. — Bielitz. — Poland. — Miastas. — Peasantry. — Liberty co-existent only with Virtue. — A floating Bridge.*

In proceeding from Vienna towards Constantinople, the traveller may choose between two routes, one leading through Hungary and Transylvania to Bukarest and Ruschuk, the other carrying him through Galitzia and Moldavia. Having made our arrangements as to passports, &c., we felt some difficulty in deciding upon which of these routes we ought to prefer. Mr. Ross, the messenger, then just arrived by the route of Varna and Transylvania, gave us so exaggerated an account of the difficulties he had encountered, that we were inclined to overlook them altogether, and pursue that road as being the shortest; when a lucky accident brought us acquainted with a Greek, named *Amaxaris*, the resident agent at Vienna, of the Hospodar of Moldavia, who stated to us in such confident terms the superiority of the posting and roads in Galitzia and Moldavia, that we determined to abide by his advice, and go through Lemberg, Yassy, and Galatz; for which purpose he very politely gave us letters to Prince Mourousi, which we found of much utility: Amaxaris himself had been interpreter to Sir Sidney Smith

on board the Tigre, when off the coast of Syria, and was strongly attached to the English, although he complained rather querulously that his services had not been sufficiently rewarded.

Quitting Vienna, therefore, by the same gate we had entered, and repassing the arms of the Danube by that bridge which was so soon to become the scene of such painful events, we drove along the skirts of the Prater, towards the village of Stammersdorf. The morning was fine, and the sun was rising gloriously; the herds of deer which had been chased away by the busy crowds of promenaders the preceding evening, had returned to their wonted haunts, and were quietly ranging the dewy glades, amidst plants of the same kind which our countryman, John Ray, had found growing there above one hundred and fifty years ago.

Hostile armies had in succession traversed these forests, encamped beneath their shades, and beleaguered the ramparts of Vienna; crowns and sceptres had passed away, the Sobieskis, the Eugenes, and Cara Mustaphas, had descended to the tomb, and the events with which they were connected, now eclipsed by actions of greater interest, seemed but obscurely remembered, like the imagery of a troubled vision; but the surviving herds still sported over the fields of their fame, and the vegetable tribes of the clematis, alkakengi, and marrubium waved their blossoms in the gale over the sods which had been so often drenched with human tears and human blood.

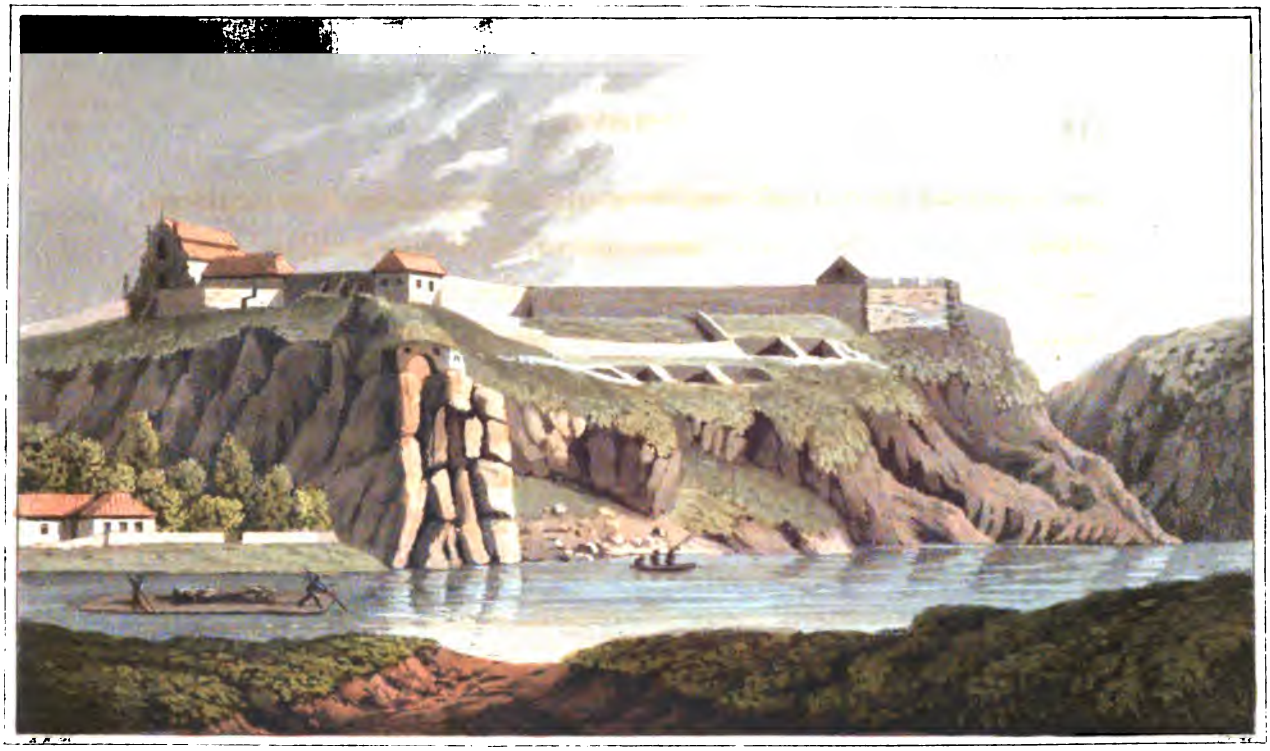
We slept at Nicholsburg, an indifferent village, and next day reached Brunn, a considerable town in Moravia, where we dined. On a hill adjoining and overlooking this town, is the fortress of the Spielberg, which we visited. Within the dungeons of this single fortress are immured the majority of the criminals of Austria; and if we consider the great population of the Austrian States

(twenty-four millions) and the small extent of this building, we cannot but be surprised at the very few criminals it contains. Travellers, indeed, have been astonished at the general good conduct of the Austrians, and the small number of offences which are annually perpetrated. And it is a mortifying comparison to make, but not less true, that more crimes are committed within a single English county in twelve months than throughout the whole extent of Austria in two years. Amongst other humane innovations introduced by Joseph the Second, was the abolition of the punishment of death; but this lenity, greater in appearance than in fact, being found incompatible with good government, was withdrawn by his successor Leopold, and murders and some other offences are now punished with death, as in other European states. Still, however, the criminal code of Austria is less bloody than that of most other countries, and, in my humble opinion, this is one of the reasons, amongst many others, that crimes are so rare.

Below the deep moats of this fortress, we were shown several dungeons appropriated to the use of some hundreds of felons, who here drag out their loathsome existence. They had finished the labours of the day, and, under the inspection of the officers of the fort, the jailers were chaining them down to strong iron bolts running along the foot-boards of large wooden bedsteads, on the planks of which, they were extended in rows of about forty persons each. They are not allowed straw, and, of course, sleep in their clothes. They were chained in pairs by handcuffs at the wrists, their feet being secured by a running chain, to the bolts before mentioned. The squalid misery and ruffian-like physiognomies of many of these wretched men was dreadful. Such, too, is the ferocious disposition which they often evince, that, as

we were told by the officers, even upon very slight provocations, when at work, they have been known to dash out their companion's brains with a blow of their handcuffs. Two or three of such desperadoes were pointed out to us, chained down in corners of the dungeons, apart from their companions in guilt. The lowest of the dungeons we visited, was eighty feet beneath the bottom of the ditch, and the necessary ventilation is admitted by narrow grated shafts opening into the moat. In the rooms above, are confined state criminals of rank. It was here that General Mack and Prince Aversperg were afterwards confined, the latter for two years, the former only for a few months. The labours of the common convicts consist in cleaning the streets and repairing the ramparts of Brunn; they work in pairs, and when at any time one of the two expires during the day, his companion is forced to drag his body about till sun-set, when he is liberated from the corpse, but never before.

Brunn, however, is now likely to acquire a better name, for it is fast becoming the Leeds of Austria. Of late years several manufactories of fine woollen cloths and kerseymeres have been established here, and are now in a very flourishing condition, government having granted to them many important privileges, and being occupied in devising measures for their benefit; so that from the local advantages of the city, the command of running streams, fuel, &c., there is every reason for supposing, that the manufactures of Brunn will both extend and rapidly acquire great repute throughout Germany and Italy. The three principal establishments are those of the Baron de Mund, Mr. Biegmann, and Mr. Offermann. The first named gives employment to upwards of five thousand workmen, and sells cloths annually to the amount of one million of florins, or about one hundred



*The Wyssé-gorod at Prague. The Bath of Libussa.*

*City of Brünn & Fortress of Spielberg. Moravia.*

Published by Mess.rs Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme & Brown, Paternoster Row [illegible]

thousand pounds sterling. Mr. Biegmann keeps in pay two thousand two hundred workmen. In the works under the management of Mr. Offermann, the scissars for shearing the broad cloth are set in motion by water wheels: one wheel driving ten pairs of shears. The articles fabricated, consist of swan-skins, rattines, and kerseymeres. In the work-shops belonging to M. Seitter, are also made Turkish bonnets or calpacs, which are sent to Constantinople, Salonica, and Smyrna. Dyeing is likewise carried on to a great extent at Brunn: and the colours there produced, are celebrated throughout Germany for their brilliancy and durability. The principal dyer is named Schoelli, and he has amongst his workmen several Englishmen. In his vats they principally dye scarlets. All the broadcloths and kerseymeres woven throughout Moravia, are sent to Brunn to be dyed, coming even from Bochtiltz in the vicinity of Znaim, which place alone produces woollen cloths to the amount of several millions annually. The finest of the Moravian kerseymeres are produced at Teltsh, where there are upwards of thirty looms for superfine cloths, ten for kerseymeres, and twenty for coarser woollens. Latterly the English machinery both for spinning and shearing has been introduced there, which has thrown two thirds of the workmen out of employment, their numbers being reduced from eighteen to six hundred. But the largest woollen factory in Moravia, is situated at Machrishneustadt, near Olmutz, where one hundred and eighty looms produce annually, cloths to the amount of one hundred and forty thousand florins, or about twelve thousand eight hundred and eighty-three pounds sterling. This factory maintains large warehouses both at Vienna and Brunn, and sends goods into Galitzia, Poland, Russia, Hungary, and Transylvania. The Moravian fleeces produce the

finest wool known in Austria, but the supply being inadequate, the deficiency is furnished from Russia and Poland, which, in return, carry back large quantities of manufactured goods. The establishments for spinning cotton thread, are also extending themselves throughout Moravia, where there are upwards of ten mills besides, some in the immediate neighbourhood of Vienna. At Lettowitz, near Brunn, is a manufactory employing two thousand persons, and producing threads to the amount of thirty thousand florins annually, or nearly two thousand pounds sterling. In aid too of these infant manufactories of cotton, the dyers of Moravia practise the dyeing of *Turkey* or *madder-red*, and the government has extended to this branch also, every possible encouragement. Here is likewise a silk mill, but its size is very small. Thus, within a few years, Moravia has become as industrious as Silesia and Bohemia, and its factories are equal in extent and utility; while its situation is so very centrical, that it can, with equal facility, send its goods by means of excellent roads, to the sea-ports of Trieste and Venice, on the Adriatic, or to the fairs of Poland and Russia. Brunn is the centre and emporium of this commerce, which is chiefly transacted by means of four annual fairs, occurring every three months, and continuing four weeks at a time. The goods are carried away on small light waggons, and the roads are kept in good repair. There are no canals, and only one navigable river in Moravia, namely, the Morava or river Murch.

The city of Brunn owes its name as well as its importance to the springs of excellent water with which it is surrounded, and which supply its factories and dying vats. *Brunn* or *Briun* (Sclav.) signifying a source or spring of water. Two small rivers called the Schwartz-a (black water) and the Swita-a (white

water) arise from these springs, and flow round the town. Its population is about 18,000 souls. The principal parochial church, dedicated to St. James, has a fine spire covered with copper, and contains the tomb of Field-Marshal Louis de Sonches, who fell in action under the walls of the town. The fortifications are very ancient, and were formerly important, but the bastions have been suffered to fall into decay, and the ditches, &c., are now occupied by dye-works and tan-pits.

About a quarter of a mile to the eastward of the town, is a large garden with a mound at the extremity, which commands a good view of the town and the Spielberg, and in the distance to the left, the fatal fields of Austerlitz. The garden itself, like most of those we visited in Germany, is very indifferent, the Germans being notoriously ignorant of horticulture.

Quitting Brunn, and travelling through a fertile and well cultivated country, the fourth post is Olmutz, or Holomauz, the ancient capital of Moravia. This city is very strongly, but very disagreeably situated, in the midst of a dead level, amongst the marshy branches of the river Morava, a sluggish muddy stream laving the ramparts. Its population amounts to 11,000 souls; the buildings are good, but in this, as well as in the other towns of Moravia, although massive and substantial, they are very lofty and ugly, raised for the most part on square buttresses, with arcades, like those around Covent Garden market. Olmutz formerly boasted an university, which has dwindled to what is called in modern phraseology, a Lyceum. Its fortifications enjoy the credit of having baffled the arms of Frederick the Great in 1758, and it has since our visit had the honour of sheltering the Imperial family of Austria, after the battle of Austerlitz. Near Olmutz is a small tract of country, extending about five square

German miles, and inhabited by a set of people called the Haunacks, who are supposed by the native statistical writers to be the pure descendants of the aboriginal inhabitants of Moravia. They derive their appellation from a small river the Hauna. Their history is rather obscure, but they are undoubtedly a Sclavonic tribe. In stature they are short, but strong and muscular; and being simple, temperate, and plain in their habits, they attain in general a very advanced age. By the neighbouring Germans they are reproached as being slothful and averse to bodily labour. But they themselves boast of the fertility of their soil, and look down with contempt upon the other inhabitants of Moravia, as an inferior race of beings, to whom nature has been more niggardly in her endowments. Their mode of living is frugal and primitive to a great degree. The flesh of swine, joined with hasty pudding, is their favourite viand, and beer their only beverage. The young women are remarkable for the grace and elegance of their forms, and the neat adjustment of their dresses, which are very picturesque, and show off to great advantage a considerable share of personal beauty with which their wearers are gifted. Their summer dress consists of a large white linen cap, the lappets of which, bordered with lace, and embroidered with black silk, fall over their shoulders. Their long hair is suffered to float in tresses; or when the cap is laid aside, is gracefully twisted and tied over the head with knots of ribbands; their well-turned ankles are set off with white or red stockings, with black shoes and red heels. The dress of the men consists of a round hat, adorned with various coloured ribbands; a waistcoat commonly green, embroidered with red silk, surmounted by a broad leathern girdle, with brown pantaloons and boots, joined to the vest by means of large buckles. This is their summer costume, but in winter they

cover their heads with a large and singularly shaped fur cap, and throw over their shoulders an undressed sheep or wolf-skin, in absence of which, they wear a brown woollen cloak, with a large hood, like that of a Capuchin friar.

Besides these Haunacks, it may not be amiss, ere we quit Moravia, to notice another *caste*, equally singular, namely, the Moravian Brethren, or Hernhutters, whose first establishment commenced about the middle of the fifteenth century, or the year 1457. The name of Hernhutters was afterwards applied to them from a beautiful village which they had built on a spot called the Hutberg, or mountain of Hut.

These Moravian Brethren first received a distinct and independent existence about near the beginning of the last century, when in 1720, the Count Zinzendorf granted them an especial protection, and appropriated to their use a fine tract of country.

Their establishments may be regarded in some measure as Protestant convents. Their religious worship partakes both of Lutheranism and Calvinism. In their associations, which are extremely liberal, they are bound by no sort of vow, all their obligations being voluntary, and yet they have every thing in common. The men and women live together as in other European towns, and marriages are celebrated as elsewhere. But, like the associations formed by the Jesuits in Paraguay, they have this remarkable peculiarity, that the labour of every individual does not belong to himself solely, but to the community in general of which he is a member. In this manner the society profits by the industry and talents of each of its members, giving them in return a recompence proportioned to their degree of merit. For a long period they were in the habit of eating their meals together, but this custom has been discontinued gradually as their numbers have

extended. At the present time they are to be found throughout the different states of Germany, as well in Saxony and Prussia, as in Moravia, where the traveller often meets with entire villages peopled by them. All their villages are distinguished by the greatest cleanliness, as well as by the order and strict union which seems to reign amongst all the inhabitants. They are in general so peaceful, and every thing is transacted with so much tranquillity, that at first sight one might be tempted to believe their hamlets to be uninhabited or abandoned.

These communities, all the members of which are, in truth, brethren, are directed by a committee, selected from amongst the elders most remarkable for their good sense. The members of it are chosen annually, and it is in its turn controlled by a general committee, composed of the different head manufacturers, or of those who direct the establishments of the community. In other points, the members of the committee have no other advantages, beyond that of being useful to their brethren. Whenever a member has been elected five times successively, the oldest man makes known the services which he has rendered to the society, and from that time he is always styled a *dearly beloved brother*.

Hitherto the Hernhutters have dedicated themselves but little to agriculture. Commerce and various branches of industry are their only occupations. The order they have established for the general division of the profits realised by the community is, perhaps, more easily carried into effect by a mercantile than an agricultural people, among whom there is rarely enough of information to enable them to keep an exact account of sums received and expended. Thus, for instance, the shopkeeper, innkeeper, handicraftsman, &c., are paid by the community, and all their re-

ceipts must be again refunded into the general chest, by aid of which, the old and infirm, the young and able-bodied, are all maintained alike; while established tables fix the stipend which each is to receive, according to the trade he follows, and his degree of ability. By these means, all discussions and altercations are avoided.

The two sexes live separately till the period of their marriage; the society of unmarried men living in common, and that of unmarried women also; thus forming two distinct communities. Hitherto the greatest equality has been attempted and has succeeded. As to religious tenets, the whole society seems to be ecclesiastical, every thing at least being undertaken in the name of religion, and solely on that account. An invisible authority seems to regulate this church, in which, however, there is no salaried clergyman. The most respectable Elder of the community, performs the sacerdotal duties, and when he thinks any other individual more deserving than himself to fulfil them, begs him in the name of the fraternity, to give them a discourse. Such, indeed, is the impression made by the austerity of manners and the purity of conduct of these Hernhutters, that strangers on first visiting them, would conceive themselves carried back to the primitive days of the Christian church, or would imagine that the fraternity they contemplated, was composed of the pious anchorites of the desert. An incomparable suavity, and an unalterable beneficence, are their distinguishing characteristics, and what is perhaps not a little extraordinary, all the members seem equally charitable and benevolent.

After quitting Olmutz, near a small town called Fisdeck, we crossed a torrent which is one of the parent streams of the river Oder, and which constitutes the boundary between Moravia and

Silesia. We soon after entered a country as beautifully picturesque as can well be imagined. The Carpathian mountains here extend themselves towards the north to meet the *Sudetes* or Mountains of the Giants, the Reisengebirge, and the road winds amongst the fertile valleys of this subalpine ridge, in a manner extremely beautiful. Fine crops of flax and corn, clover and lucerne, appeared from time to time amongst the hollows, which were well watered with a profusion of rapid streams, and sheltered from every wind by natural woods of gigantic pine and larch trees. At Teschin, a beautiful town celebrated for the signing a treaty of peace, as well as for a manufactory of excellent rifle gun-barrels, we slept. The town stands upon the junction of several torrents, which drive the machinery for drilling the gun-barrels. About eight leagues further on, we came to Bielitz, also a very lovely place, where we crossed the rapid stream called the Bialla which descends from the Carpathian Appenines, and gives origin to the mighty Vistula. At this spot we entered Galitzia or Austrian Poland. The river Bialla, previously to the first division of Poland in 1772, was the boundary between Austria and Poland, and is now the limit between Austrian and Prussian Silesia.

Although the face of the country still continued fertile and beauteous, with the Carpathian mountains towering in great majesty on our right, and covered with pine forests almost to their very summits, yet the villages and dwellings of the peasants soon betrayed a sombre and miserable aspect, very different indeed from those of Moravia and Silesia. In a country like Poland, where wood is plentiful, and stone, particularly freestone very scarce, it may be presumed that log huts are the general dwellings of the peasantry, and that architecture is still

in its infancy. In fact every peasant is his own mason. Armed with a hatchet he enters the nearest wood, and having felled such trees as he chooses to select, he carries them to the area of his future dwelling, and splits each trunk into two beams. Four large stones mark out the corners * of an oblong square, and constitute the basis upon which the hut is raised, by placing the beams in horizontal layers, with the flat sides inwards; a sort of mortice being cut in each about half a foot from the end to receive the connecting beams. A sort of cage is thus formed of small dimensions, generally about twelve feet by six, and moss is thrust in between the logs to exclude the wind and rain. Two openings however are left, one of which serves for a door, and the other, with the addition of a few panes of glass or a couple of sheets of oiled paper, forms a window. At one of the corners within, are placed four upright posts, round which are entwined some twigs covered with mud and clay, to form a square area into which is built an oven or furnace of the same materials; this, when hard and dry, serves the peasant for kitchen, chimney, stove, and bed. The roof is closed in with rafters and twigs, bedaubed with a thick coating of clay, and covered over with a close warm thatch, extending over both gable-ends. To finish this rude hut, the walls are sometimes extended a few additional feet in a still rougher style, to form a sort of vestibule, which also answers for a cart-house or stable; and occasionally a second is added to serve as a barn. Perhaps in the whole building, there is hardly a bolt, lock, or hinge, or any article of metal. Yet this is the retreat for a Polish serf, and contains himself and family and all his goods and chattels. If

* The corner stones of the Holy Scripture.

the proprietor happens to be a little more affluent, his hut may contain an oven of glazed earthenware, and two bed-rooms with boarded floors, the walls of which are white-washed, and the doors secured with locks. If he be a Jew, the house is still larger, the roof better, and covered with shingles instead of thatch. The windows are a degree wider, and if he be an innkeeper, there is a long stable with a coach entrance at each end, which serves, as in Holstein, for barn, stable, cow-house, and a "lodging and entertainment both for man and beast," as the old sign-posts of our country express it. The gentry give to their wooden houses a greater extent, and a form a little more symmetrical. The walls within may be stuccoed and washed with distemper colours, and the walls externally plastered and white-washed. The door of entrance occupies the centre, and is covered with a rude porch raised on four posts, and the front may perhaps boast three or four windows. Such are the elemental parts composing a Polish village, and nothing under heaven can be more miserable, dirty, or wretched, than the whole assemblage, externally as well as internally. In travelling through Galitzia, all the inns being kept by Jews, we were generally obliged to halt in the Jewish villages. Both inns and post-houses are always situated in the public squares, which occupy the centre of every *miasta* or town. These squares are also the market places for horned cattle, and have never been cleansed out since their first formation; they are perfect quagmires of filth, the putrid effluvia arising from which are almost insufferable. Happy the traveller, the dimensions of whose carriage will admit of his occupying it during the night; what abominations will he not escape! We however were not so fortunate. It is true we carried fur skins with us, upon

which we endeavoured to sleep, but the noisome smells from the damp earthen floors of these Jewish *hostels*, were frequently so powerful and disgusting as to keep us awake, and there were a thousand other nameless annoyances more easily imagined than described. From the centre of the roof of these *Golgòthas*, I always observed suspended, a large brass chandelier with seven branches! this is the Sabbath lamp, and is regularly lighted every Friday evening at sun-set, when all the fires are carefully extinguished, and not re-lighted till the same hour on the next evening. A long wooden table soiled with grease stands beneath, occupying the middle of the apartment, around which are ranged several wooden benches, with one or two rotten chairs and a cushion stuffed with hay. In the peasants' huts a sort of shovel is slung from the roof loaded with tallow, on which is placed a lock of flax, which being lighted, serves for a lamp. The best food which we met with at these inns, was the stewed veal of calves, two days old perhaps, floating in a sour paste called *Barszcz* pronounced *barchethe*, and beet root or cucumbers stewed and and fermented like sour-crout, called *buraszki*, with *rosoli*, a gruel made of flesh and oatmeal, or *pirogy*, a soup or pottage made of barley, rice, and millet, or manna, (*Festuca fluitans.*) These messes are all very disagreeable, particularly the large overgrown cucumbers fermented with salt and fennel leaves. The bread is equally bad, black, gritty, and ill tasted, generally composed of every grain except that of wheat. The only thing connected with travelling, which a stranger can commend in Galitzia, is the state of the high roads; these are excellent, of a good breadth, well levelled, and kept in admirable repair. But these, and every thing else that is not absolutely abominable, are the creation of the Austrian Govern-

ment; for previously to the year 1772, they were as miserable as the inns. How much absurdity has been said and written on the subject of the partition of Poland! Let us grant that it was attended with enormous atrocities, that much innocent blood was spilt, and that all the ties of honour and hospitality were violated by the partitioning powers; let us bewail the gallant Kosciusko, let us deplore his glorious fall; let us execrate the ambition of Frederick and Catherine, and lament the weakness of Joseph the Second; let us allow the bad example shown to cabinets, and exclaim with Gentz on its mischievous consequences to the rest of Europe; but at the same time let us listen to the voices of the Poles and we shall learn, that "the fatal partition," though a curse to all the world besides, has to them been the greatest of blessings. Every person has gained, excepting a few vain, selfish, pampered magnates, who abused their overgrown power, and were a perpetual source of misery to the unfortunate serfs whom Providence had committed to their care. If ever there was a country where "might constituted right," that country was Poland; the most dreadful oppression, the most execrable tyranny, the most wanton cruelties, were daily exercised by the nobles upon their unfortunate peasants. Let us quote a few facts; they will speak volumes, A Polish peasant's life was held of the same value with one of his horned cattle; if his lord slew him, he was fined only one hundred Polish florins, or two pounds sixteen shillings sterling. If, on the other hand, a man of ignoble birth dared to raise his hand against a nobleman, death was the inevitable punishment. If any one presumed to question the nobility of a magnate, he was forced to prove his assertion or suffer death; nay, if a powerful man chose to take a fancy to the field of his humbler neighbour,

and to erect a land-mark upon it, and if that land-mark remained for three days, the poor man lost his possession. The atrocious cruelties which were habitually exercised, are hardly credible. A Masalki caused his hounds to devour a peasant who happened to frighten his horse; a Radzivil had the belly of one of his subjects ripped open to thrust his feet into it, hoping thereby to be cured of a malady which tormented him. — Still there were laws in Poland, but how were they executed? — A peasant going to the market at Warsaw, met a man who had just then assassinated another; he seized the murderer, bound him, and having placed him in his waggon, together with the murdered corpse, went to deliver him up to the nearest *Staroste* or Justice of Peace. On arriving he was asked if he had ten ducats to pay for his interference, and upon his answering in the negative, he was sent back with his dead and living lumber. After this fact we cannot be surprised to learn that it cost a merchant of Warsaw fourteen hundred ducats to convict and execute two robbers who had plundered him: joined to all this injustice, there reigned in Poland the most barbarous ignorance and superstition. In the year 1781, the Staroste Potocki, in passing through a miasta, or village, learned that on the following day a person accused of sorcery was to be burned alive. He examined the accused, enquired the hour at which the execution was to take place, and returned home to take measures for preventing this legal murder, by carrying off the prisoner when on his way to the stake. The village magistrates got notice of his intention, and hastened the execution, so that when Potocki arrived, he found the man had been already sacrificed. — Nor was this ignorance and superstition confined to any particular class or order; people of the highest rank were in that respect completely on a level with the lowest serfs. A

Polish Baroness who had acquired some notoriety both at home and in France, by her spirit for intrigue and the wit of her correspondence, was in the habit of burning frankincense, and sprinkling her apartments with holy water whenever a thunder storm approached her castle. One day when these pious precautions were proved to have been unavailing, the lightning having struck and thrown down her chimneys, she had recourse to an expedient which she believed to be infallible: namely, the burying around her house thirty copies of the Gospel of St John, *In principio erat verbum*, &c., which is a custom still piously practised on Christmas-day throughout all the churches in Poland! The morals of the people were, and continue to be, nearly at the lowest point of debasement. Female chastity is a virtue unknown in Poland. From the highest to the lowest rank there prevails the most dreadful licentiousness; there are, no doubt, some honourable exceptions; yet they are but exceptions to the general tenor of conduct. The male sex are proportionably profligate; drunkenness, gluttony, and sensuality prevail to a degree unknown in other countries of Europe. Education is, in general, much neglected, the lower class being unable to obtain the means of instruction; and in the higher walks of life, as may be easily conceived, where no man is assured of the legitimacy of his offspring, a total indifference prevails as to the training of the doubtful brood. They are therefore neglected from their cradles, and left to the wild exercise of every passion, undisciplined, untutored, uncontrolled. Endowed by nature with great personal beauty, the young Polish nobleman makes the tour of France and Germany, engrafts on his own native stock of vice those of every capital which he visits, and after dilapidating his revenues returns to his paternal estate attended with a train of French valets, cooks, and

parasites, and all the paraphernalia of modern luxury, to wallow in sensuality and die prematurely of acquired disease. Yet such is the race that writers have joined in bewailing as the victims of ambition and the martyrs of patriotism. These terms may exist, but patriotism or ambition were in fact unknown in Poland: inordinate selfishness was the prevailing passion and motive of action, and the whole fabric of human society was rotten and undermined to its very foundations. It is a truth which cannot be too often repeated, that *liberty can exist only amongst a virtuous and moral people.* Whenever human depravity has reached a certain point, a nation must become enslaved, first by its own rulers, and then by surrounding nations. History presents to us this truth in a thousand aspects, and yet mankind are obstinately deaf to the unwelcome truth. When the Saxon family had obtained by bribery and intrigue the crown of Poland, the Polish character was sunk almost past recovery; the wars which ensued tended still more to corrupt and demoralise the people, and when Stanislaus Poniatowsky ascended the throne, it is but reasonable to infer that that weak and profligate Pole possessed neither the talents nor the inclination to reform the condition of his subjects. On the contrary it would appear that he participated in their crimes, and only laughed at the scenes of cruelty and injustice which were daily passing around him. Thus, during his reign, a petty noble having refused to resign to Count Thisenhaus his small estate, the Count invited him to dinner, as if desirous of amicably adjusting the affair; and whilst the knight, in the pride of his heart, at such an unexpected honour, assiduously plied the bottle, the Count dispatched some hundreds of peasants with axes, ploughs, and waggons, ordering the village, which consisted only of a few wooden buildings, to be pulled down, the materials carried

away, and the plough to be passed over the ground which the village had occupied. This was accordingly done. The nobleman, on his return home in the evening, could find neither road, house, nor village. The master and his servant were alike bewildered, and knew not whether they were dreaming or had lost the power of discrimination; but their surprise and agony were deemed so truly humorous, that the whole court was delighted with the joke! As a contrast to this story, (related on the authority of Baron Uklanski, himself a Pole,) the reader may peruse the following, which happened in Galitzia, after the *cruel partition*. A peasant with his wife and children, belonging to the estate of the Staroste Bleski, having fled into Austrian Galitzia, the Staroste assembled a party of horsemen and carried off his serf, upon whom he inflicted a hundred blows of the *kanczuk*, and threw him into a dungeon. The Emperor Joseph the Second having been informed of this fact, caused his Ministers to demand a reparation from the King of Poland, who answered, that it did not depend upon him, but upon his permanent council. The Emperor not being satisfied with this evasive answer, sent a body of two hundred dragoons, to bring back both the Staroste and the serf to Zamoic, where they were brought before an Austrian Court of Justice. The Staroste was condemned to pay a thousand crowns as an indemnity to the peasant, and a fine of five thousand to the Austrian Exchequer. The hundred blows which he had bestowed upon the peasant, were repaid to him on his own person, and he was sent home again to his estate with all due respect.

Generally speaking, the whole tract of country between the frontiers of Silesia and the city of Lemberg is fertile and culti-

vated, but far from picturesque, with the single exception of an extensive valley in the stage between the *miastas* of Mislenice and Gdow. Here the road on coming to the brow of a hill, passes under the extensive ruins of an old castle placed on a rock, commanding the pass leading into a superb valley, watered by a river called the Raaba, one of the tributary streams of the Vistula. Along its rocky banks are some beautiful hanging woods; and the country, overspread with farm-houses, farms, and villages, rises gradually on the right towards the Carpathian mountains, that terminate the landscape to the south. On leaving this valley we soon after passed the Vistula itself, on a floating bridge between Gdow and Bochnia, which is a village celebrated for its mines of rock salt. From the time of our quitting Silesia, we met with but few travellers and not many human beings, excepting those employed in repairing the roads, and convoys of conscripts, dragged violently from their homes, and proceeding in waggons and on foot by forced marches, escorted by armed veterans, to join the Austrian army in Bohemia. Often at the villages where we passed the night, the barns were occupied by these poor fellows, with sentries at the doors to prevent their escape; and at one *miasta* we found the smoking ruins of a barn, which had caught fire during the preceding night, and in the confusion, upwards of fifty conscripts had perished in the flames, probably from their being in a state of intoxication at the time. On crossing a second branch of the Vistula, near Pilsno, we overtook about 800 Polish peasants, returning with their waggons and cattle from attending a large fair in the neighbourhood. The wildness of their looks and dresses, and their brigand-like manners, would not have disgraced the banditti pictures of Salvator Rosa; nothing can be imagined more grotesque and extravagant than their *tout ensemble*

represented. The river we had to cross was about a quarter of a mile in breadth, and the flying bridge could only accommodate a small number at a time; but like a herd of ferocious savages, they all pressed down in a body, shouting, screaming, fighting, and overturning each other. The greater number were intoxicated, and every one was eager to be the first to get over. Some of the overseers and people employed to manage the bridge, were laying about them lustily with cudgels and large whips, the blows of which re-echoed on all sides, but seemed productive of little effect. Several fellows mad with the fumes of spirituous liquors, rode their horses into the river, and in a moment men and horses were seen struggling with the waves. Two men lost their lives; still the tumult and uproar continued, and we truly rejoiced when we found ourselves and our carriages transported in safety to the opposite bank.

## CHAPTER XI.

*Lemberg — its ruinous state. — Population and Commerce. — Jewish Synagogue. — Russian Troops. — A modern Thalestris. — Polish Fuhrmans. — Halietz. — The river Dniester. — Marienpont. — Teutonic, or Marian Knights. — Ancient Pruteni — their Idolatry. — Jews.*

On reaching Lemberg, we found that the first division of the Russian army, under General Kutusoff, was expected here within two days; and as my companion, Colonel Gillespie, had been anticipating for a long time the pleasure he should derive from this novel military spectacle, we determined to await their arrival.

In the interval we had an opportunity of inspecting this singular city, which in size and magnificence ranks next to Cracow, and in commercial importance has become the first in Galitzia, particularly since the building of Odessa. It lies in a hollow, surrounded by low sandy hills, and its walls are washed by the Belten, a shallow stream, as slow, muddy, and putrid as the poetical Cocytus itself. Owing to the lofty towers and cupolas of the cathedral, and of the conventical churches, and the height and massiveness of the houses, built of free-stone, there is an air of grandeur and magnificence in the exterior of Lemberg, more particularly when viewed from a distance, which belies its real character. Here, as in most other cities in Poland, there is such a multitude of Jews, that their filthy habits mingled with those of

the Russians, Poles, Armenians, and others, their fellow-citizens, give a character to a population altogether as motley and villainous, as is, perhaps, to be met with in any large city in Europe; the streets are dirty and badly paved, and the interior of the town is both ruinous and neglected. Notwithstanding its low situation, commanded on every side by hills, Lemberg seems at one time to have been considered by the Poles as a place of strength; for even so lately as during the invasion of their country by the army of Charles the Twelfth of Sweden, they attempted to repair its fortifications, and vainly expected that it would hold out for fifteen days against that conqueror's troops; but the folly of such a hope was soon demonstrated, for Charles invested it on the 5th of September, 1704, carried it by assault the following day, and a general pillage having ensued, the town was plundered of all the treasure which had been accumulated in it. The walls are low; they are now little better than a heap of ruins; and of a *keep* on a hill to the eastward of the town only a few stones remain. Another castle which stands in the centre of the city still shows a high square tower in a state of good repair. The population is, however, on the increase, being between twenty-four and thirty thousand souls; it is more than double what it was a century ago, and the town is become a great commercial emporium, being the principal thoroughfare from Odessa and the other Russian ports on the Black Sea, to Yassy, and Vienna. The Russians bring annually to the fairs here large quantities of Siberian and Tartarian peltry, and receive in exchange the hardware, woollen and cotton goods of Austria; while much of the grain of Poland and Galitzia passes through in waggons, to be shipped at Odessa, for Genoa, Malta, and Marseilles. The Jews are, of course, the principal brokers and agents in this commerce, and have here extensive

warehouses. Immense droves of horned cattle arrive also from Moldavia, and are sent from hence into the Austrian, Russian, and Silesian territories. As to the Hebrews, Lemberg may be regarded as their Holy City in Europe; for they have at this place one of the largest synagogues in the world, capable of containing about 10,000 persons. Poland is to them a second land of promise. Lemberg is also the seat of a university and gymnasium, or public school, and an English traveller (Mr. George Burnett, of Baliol College, Oxford) found, on visiting the public library, that it contained a considerable store of books in different languages. The same gentleman adds, that on inspecting the store-room of prohibited books, he found Hume's Essays, Volney's Ruins, and Voltaire's Works. In Lemberg there is one large bookseller's shop, which is quite a phænomenon in Poland. It stands in the principal public square, which is about the size of Covent Garden market, surrounded, as usual, by arcades.

The Russian troops did, in fact, arrive on the appointed day, and our curiosity was amply gratified by beholding the various semibarbarous tribes of which their cavalry regiments were composed. Calmucks, Cossacks from the Don and Volga, Tartars from the banks of the Caspian, and Siberians from the frozen bounds of the Northern Ocean, mounted on animals so small and rough in appearance, that it was difficult to discriminate at first sight whether they were actually horses, or some unknown quadrupeds. The contemplation of these swarthy groupes, congregated like the hordes of barbarians pouring down upon the empire of the West, excited in our minds some extraordinary reflections as to the ultimate consequences which might one day result from this irruption. We felt we could enter with a more lively interest into those passages of Ammianus

and Jornandes describing the appearances of these northern tribes. "*Pavendâ nigredrine.....quædam deformis offa, non facies; habensque magis puncta quam lumina,*" are the words in which Jornandes describes the face of a Calmuck, and his description is far from a caricature. "*Prodigiosæ formæ et pandi; ut bipedes existimes bestias, vel quales in commarginandis pontibus effigiati stipites dolantur incompti,*" are the words of Ammianus. The Parisians, with a happier brevity of sarcasm, have called them *Les Cupidons du Nord,* and *les cornichons verds,* "the green cucumbers," from the colour of their uniforms, and the stoop of their bodies, which the Roman historian had endeavoured to express by "*prodigiosæ formæ et pandi.*" It even occurred to us, that the western nations of Europe, in calling in the assistance of these hardy savages, may have added another fatal illustration of the fable of the horse and the stag, quoted by Horace; when the former in his hatred, wishing to avenge himself on the stag who despoiled his pastures, called in the assistance of man, and gave himself a master whom he could never wring from his withers.

"*Cervus equum pugnâ melior communibus herbis*
*Pellebat; donec minor in certamine longo*
*Imploravit opes homines; frænumque recepit:*
*Sed postquam victor victo discessit ab hoste,*
*Non equitem dorso, non frænum depulit ore.*"

One circumstance connected with the passage of this division is worth relating, as it illustrates what has been before stated, respecting the general corruption of morals in Poland. A lady of noble birth, whose château was situated a few leagues from Lemberg, was living in the same hotel with ourselves, which was

also the head-quarters of the Russian troops. This woman's fortune, if we might form an opinion from her numerous retinue, horses, and carriages, must have been fully adequate to her rank. She had come to Lemberg to await the passage of the Russian troops, expressly for the same purpose that one of her Amazonian ancestors, Queen Thalestris, had thrown herself in the way of Alexander and the Macedonian army. The troops continued marching in for four days, during which time this licentious female dined daily at the *table d'hôte*, and adopted expedients to accomplish the object of her journey, in which, I presume, she was not disappointed.

The people at the inn spoke of this as belonging to the common course of passing events in Poland; thus confirming the truth of Wraxall's assertion, "that it is not in fact gallantry but licentiousness which here reigns without controul." Wraxall speaks especially of Warsaw, but the state of society is the same all over Poland.

Previously to our quitting Vienna, we had been advised to make a contract with a Jew at Lemberg, to furnish us with horses to Jassy; this plan we adopted, having found no difficulty in striking a bargain with one of that nation, who, in consideration of receiving a certain number of florins, furnished us with four horses, two to each berline, and two drivers or *Fuhrmans*, who were to travel at the rate of eight German miles daily, or between forty and forty-five English miles, and set us down on a certain day in the Moldavian capital. This plan, which is in some respects convenient, we found very disagreeable from circumstances that afterwards occurred, but which at that time we could not have foreseen. On leaving Lemberg, our first day's journey carried us through Davidow, Bobrka, and Strelitz,

all miserable villages, and terminated in the evening at Kneichenitz, where we slept. The next day we proceeded through Burstein towards Halietz, which is a very ancient town situated on the banks of the Dniester, the Tyras or Danaster of the ancient classic writers. The ruins of the Castle of Halietz are extensive, crowning the summit of a promontory which stretches boldly over the river and commands an extensive view of a very fertile valley. Two smaller rivers called the Lukewit and Lomnica here form a junction with the Dniester. Halietz has gradually dwindled down to a very poor village not containing more than 30 or 40 families, although formerly a regal abode of the kings of Halitzia, and the residence of the Greek archbishop, whose jurisdiction also extended over the whole duchy of Moldavia, until Lasco, Duke of Moldavia in 1374, having embraced the faith of the Catholic church, obtained from Pope Urban the Fifth, a bull erecting the city of Serete into a bishoprick, and absolving Moldavia from allegiance to the see of Halietz. The native historians represent Halietz as having been formerly a city of great extent, containing 30 or 40,000 inhabitants; and it has also the reputation of having imposed a name on the adjoining territory; Halitzia was the original name of Galitzia; the H having been exchanged for the G for the sake of euphony. Halle in the Sclavonic tongue signifies salt; Halitz therefore is the town or place of salt, Halitzia the territory of salt mines; an etymology which seems in this instance at least, very correct. The first distinct notice which occurs in history of this city is during the reign of Boleslas, fourth Duke of Masovia, who succeeded to the throne A. D. 1226, after the death of George Duke of Russia; the next is in 1375, when the see of the archbishop was removed from Lem-

berg to Halitz, and remained there till 1416, when it was carried back to Lemberg, and has there existed until the present time. The situation of Halitz is however much more beautiful and healthy than that of Lemberg, but various circumstances conjoined with the all-powerful influence of commerce have turned the scale completely in favour of the latter city.

We left the town and castle of Halietz on our right, and crossed the Dniester in a flat-bottomed bark, at a ferry about a mile lower down the river, where we had a fine view of the old castle with the river and ferry in the fore-ground. Ovid has celebrated the Tyras for the sluggishness of its course, in his enumeration of the rivers which fall into the Euxine sea, "*nullo tardior amne Tyras*;" and indeed this character seems applicable to all the rivers in this district, so gentle is the slope towards the sea. Our road lay through a beautiful and fertile country, the soil a deep loam covered with heavy crops of hemp, maize, tobacco, &c., and the sloping banks of the river diversified with woods of birch and hazel. We encountered this day several large droves of Moldavian cattle proceeding towards Lemberg; the bullocks were remarkable for beauty of form, and their colour very uniformly a fine ashen grey.

At a village called Marienpont, we baited our horses. It is inhabited by a few families, chiefly Jews, wretched, ragged, and dirty, swarming with vermin, and covered with cutaneous diseases. Here too we remarked some cases of that loathsome complaint, the Plica Polonica. At this place are the remains of some strong walls, and an old Gothic castle, built of stone. It would seem that it was formerly one of the fortresses of the Marian or Teutonic knights, who conquered and civilized Prussia and Poland, and put an end to the idolatrous worship of the

European Sarmatians. This order was established by Pope Celestine the Third in 1191, under the name of the order of the Teutonic knights of the hospital of St. Mary of Jerusalem; and was composed of the German knights then present at the siege of Acre. During the grand mastership of Hermand de Saltz, the fourth who enjoyed that dignity, Conrad, Duke of Masovia and Cujavia sent him an embassy, inviting the order to accept the provinces of Culm and Livonia, together with all the country that they might be able to conquer from the idolatrous Prussians, who were continually making incursions into Conrad's territories. De Saltz accepted the invitation, and in the course of fifty years, the Teutonic order conquered Prussia Proper, Livonia, Samogitia and Pomerania, and afterwards purchased from Waldemir the Third, of Denmark, the province of Esthonia. After building the cities of Elbing, Marienburg, Thorn, Dantzic, Kœnigsberg, Marienwerder, &c. this powerful order involved themselves in warfare with the Sovereigns of Poland, and after a series of revolutions, sunk at the time of the reformation to a few petty commanderies. The Teutonic order, during the era of its splendour, vied in pomp and magnificence with the order of the Templars, of which some idea may be formed from considering the details which Wasselms has given in his annals. The order comprised, he says " Twenty-eight commanders of cities, forty-six of castles, eighty-one governors of hospitals, thirty-five priors of monasteries, forty *maîtres d'hôtel*, thirty-seven purveyors, ninety-three holders of mills, seven hundred lay brethren or knights armed for the field, one hundred and sixty-two religious brethren or priests, and six thousand two hundred servants. These were governed by a grand master,

whose court was kept at Mariendal, and attended by a grand commander, a grand marshal, a grand hospitaler, grand draper, treasurer," &c. &c.

The condition of the barbarous tribes who were conquered by the Teutonic knights, was in many respects similar to that of the Venedi: they were governed by a king who led their armies to battle, and a high priest called Kirie Kiriets, who dwelt in a canopy under an oak tree, surrounded by the idols which they worshipped. Within this canopy no one but the patriarch and subordinate priests were permitted to enter. But when any of the Pruteni applied for permission to approach and offer prayers or gifts, the priests removed the veil from the consecrated oak, and allowed him to behold the idols, which were three in number, placed on the three sides of the oak tree. The first was called *Petuno* or thunder. The worship of this idol consisted in a fire, which, like that of Vesta, was kept always lighted, with the wood of the oak tree; and the priest whose negligence ever permitted the fire to be extinguished, was punished with death. Next to that idol was placed *Patrimpo*, whose worship consisted in feeding and keeping alive a large serpent with milk. The third was called *Patelo*, who was worshipped by keeping suspended before his image, the head of a dead man. They worshipped also many inferior idols, such as, *Vurschay*, who presided over their herds; *Schneybrato*, who guarded the geese and ducks and poultry; and *Gurcho*, who presided over the kitchen and all food and drink. They also worshipped the moon and stars; as well as serpents, toads, and other hideous animals; and were unacquainted with letters or writing. Their drink was water mixed with honey, and mare's milk; but like

many other barbarians, they received foreigners and strangers with kindness and hospitality.*

It has been often remarked by travellers, that Poland seems now to be the only country in Europe where the persecuted Jews have obtained any great and permanent settlement. Of course their character may be here studied to greater advantage than elsewhere. Enjoying privileges and immunities which they possess in no other region, with the opportunities of engaging deeply in traffic, and accumulating immense fortunes, masters of all the specie, and most of the commerce of Poland, mortgagees of the land, and sometimes masters of the glebe, the Jewish interlopers appear to be more the lords of the country than even the Poles themselves. Historians affirm, that such has been their favoured condition for more than four centuries, since Casimir the Great, at the instigation of his Jewish mistress Esther, took "the stiff-necked race under his especial favour and protection." The countenance thus shown to them has been fatal to the Poles, whose vitals they have sucked, and whose morals, already tainted by their own vicious magnates, they have been the grand instruments in corrupting. All the distilleries throughout Poland are farmed out to Jews, who pay large sums to the nobles, for the privilege of poisoning and intoxicating their serfs. The liquors they fabricate, are corn-spirits, rendered more palatable and destructive by the addition of the essential oils of fennel and carraway seeds, which are mixed with the wash previously to distillation. This spirituous compound is drank raw and unmixed with water, and the quantity consumed is enormous.

* See *Prussia descript. auct. Alex. Guagnino apud Elzevir. Respublic.*

Of this the reader may judge from a passage in Mr. Burnett's work on Poland, who says " I shall give the reader a more precise idea of the enormous quantity which is consumed of this pernicious liquor, by observing that the Count Zamoyski obtains of a company of Jews, the large sum of three thousand pounds sterling *per annum*, simply for the privilege of distilling it on the largest of his estates. This domain, however, is a sort of principality, comprehending at least 4000 square miles." When Joseph the Second obtained Galitzia, that judicious and excellent prince perceived the necessity of limiting the privileges of the Jews; he took from them the power of cultivating the lands belonging to the serfs, subject to contributions, and prohibited them from keeping inns and distilling spirituous liquors; but upon his death all his wise maxims were laid aside, and the Jews have been slowly and silently regaining their former influence and habits. The inns are now altogether in their hands, as well as the fabrication of ardent spirits and *liqueurs*. They have all the traffic in peltry, the selling of both precious metals and diamonds, opals and cameos, &c.; they are also the principal agents in the commerce of grain. Of late years many of these Jewish families who had amassed great wealth by commerce, having affected to abjure their religion and embrace Catholicism, have been ennobled and permitted to purchase extensive estates: still true, however, to their own nation, they have built large towns and villages on these estates and peopled them exclusively with Jewish families; for, from a singular instinct, the Poles seem to detest their fellowship, and flying from their villages, generally herd together in their own *miastas*. The noble families of Ossolenski, Majerski, and Riviczinski are all of Hebrew origin. The enjoyment of liberty and civil rights seems to have produced a strong effect on the

physical constitution and physiognomy of this singular race; bestowing a dignity and energy of character upon them which we may in vain look for in those of other countries. The men, cloathed in long black robes reaching to their ankles, and sometimes adorned in front with silver agraffes, their heads covered with fur caps, their chesnut or auburn locks parted in front, and falling gracefully on the shoulders in spiral curls, display much manly beauty. Nay, I have frequently contemplated with astonishment many amongst them, whose placid, yet melancholy countenances recalled strongly to my recollection the heads depicted by Raphael, Leonardo da Vinci, Carlo Dolce, and the earlier Italian painters; and which, until I visited Poland, I had conceived to exist only amongst the fine ideal forms of art. More than once an involuntary awe has seized me on contemplating on the shoulders of a Hebrew villager, a head presenting those traits of physiognomy, which, by a long association, I had always conjoined with the abstract ideal countenance of the Saviour of the world. In this feeling I am not singular; it has been remarked by other travellers*, whose minds had been also early habituated to make such comparisons. In feminine beauty the women are likewise distinguished, but beauty is not uncommon amongst the Jewesses of other countries. When looking at them seated, according to their usual custom, on a wooden sofa, by the doors of their houses, on the evenings of their sabbaths, dressed in their richest stuffs and pearl head-dresses, I have imagined I could trace a strong resemblance between their present head-ornaments and those sculptured upon the heads of the Egyptian sphynxes. Nor do I think it at all improbable that the dresses of the Hebrews

* Denon, in his Voyage de l'Egypte; Mr. James, in his Travels in Poland, &c.

in Poland, both men and women, are at this day nearly the same as those of their ancestors when they left the " house of bondage." Herodotus mentions the *Melanchlæni*, a race of people dressed in black, dwelling amongst the Scythians on the banks of the Tyras; and the present inhabitants of Halietz and Marienpont have probably dressed in the same fashion ever since the days of that venerable historian.

## CHAPTER XII.

*Olmacks. — Obertier. — Snyatine. — The river Pruth. — Tschernowitz, or Czernowitz. — Polish filth. — The Plague. — Zoring. — Nomades — Their waggons. — Moldavia — grandeur of its Landscapes. — Dorohoi. — Botussano. — Hebrew wedding. — Hebrew Sabbath. — Molla-gast. — Jassy. — Prince Mourousi — his Capital.*

This evening we slept at Olmacks; next day we breakfasted at Obertier, and the same evening reached Snyatine. D'Anville has traced the name of Netin-Dava, (a Roman station within the limits of ancient Dacia, mentioned by Ptolemy,) as here corrupted into Snyatine. It is now a poor village inhabited by Jews, and is situated near the banks of the Pruth, the Hierasus of Strabo. This river traverses a fine valley bounded on the south-west by the lofty mountains of Transylvania, which now accompanied our road at about ten miles' distance on the right. The road followed the left bank of the river till we approached the town of Tschernowitz *, where our carriages were ferried over on a double boat lashed together by transverse planks forming a platform, and we soon afterwards entered the last frontier town of the Austrian states.

Czernowitz, the capital of the Buckowine, is agreeably situated upon a hill on the southern bank of the Pruth. It consists of

* Tschernowitz — the town on the Blackwater; — *Czerni*, a blackwater — *its* a town.

about 600 houses with three churches, and may contain a population of three thousand inhabitants. Contrary to custom, its streets are wide, clean, and well paved, and the houses are built of free-stone. It also boasts a tolerable inn where we breakfasted. Without having visited Poland, and had ocular demonstration of the filth and the abominable uncleanliness of the inhabitants, it seems difficult to believe the accounts so often given of the rapid propagation of pestilence in that country. For instance, in November 1770, the plague broke out in Constantinople, and soon carried off daily above one thousand persons. Having been propagated through Moldavia, then the theatre of war, by means of the Turkish and Russian armies, it entered Poland; and on being introduced into the strong frontier-town of Kamieneck on the Dniester, it made such havoc amongst the troops in garrison as well as the inhabitants, that the survivors in a body abandoned the place, and for several months neither Russians nor Poles would venture into it. All the peasants of one village belonging to Prince Adam Czartorinski were swept off in one day, and nine monasteries were left without a single human being. This statement, extraordinary as it appears, I have no hesitation in believing, after having witnessed the domestic habits of the people. The houses of the native Poles are equally dirty, and generally much smaller than those of the Jews, and their habits are still more filthy. Both sexes sleep together like pigs on straw or furs, upon the tops and sides of their ovens, without undressing themselves. The floors of their houses consist of clay or earth, always damp, and from which the heat of the stove draws up a perpetual vapour of the most offensive odour, which, as the windows are never opened,

circulates continually. They eat few vegetables, and their diet consists of every putrescent animal food, with bad bread, diluted copiously with spirituous liquors. Such a diet must pre-dispose them to imbibe readily every contagious poison; which, when once received, is propagated amongst them with all the rapidity of combustion itself. Generally without medical assistance, these wretched beings are abandoned to their fate; and, unfortunately such is the callous selfishness of the great majority of the Polish nobles, that instead of attempting to ameliorate the condition of their serfs, all their powers of mind and ingenuity are exhausted in ministering to their crapulous propensities, and increasing their own overgrown incomes by throwing the temptations of drunkenness in their way. Bishops and nobles are joint proprietors of all the inns, and the greater the drunkenness of the peasantry, the larger are the returns to the lords of the soil. This picture is far from being overcharged. I may appeal with confidence to every traveller in Poland to bear truth to its lamentable veracity.

The Moldavian territory commences at Zoring, a hamlet of a few houses, in which are both Austrian and Moldavian post-houses, and some Greek and Austrian commissaries to examine and countersign passports. The country around shows the remains of extensive oak forests, almost extirpated by the fires of wandering Tartars and Chinganies, who, in their constant migrations, apply their embers to the hollows of the largest trees, thereby destroying the bark, and occasioning the trees to wither and fall. We found a troop of these gypsies at Zoring: their waggons are singularly constructed, and put together sometimes with wooden pins only, without the intervention of

River Dniester & Ruins of Akkirtz.

English Ambassador's Palace at Terapia.

iron or metal. They use no tar or tallow to grease the axles, and the noise they emit is heard at a great distance.

*Neque linunt Ruteni querulos pinguedine currus*
*Haud picis auxilium stridulus axis habet.*
*Auditur veniens longe crepitare colossa :*
*Sic fragiles currus, Russe vocare soles.*
*Nam faciunt habiles uno vectore quadrigas*
*Invectas Ruteni, quas equus unus agit*
*Nec facile invenies ferrato hærentia clavo;*
*Plaustra facit ligni cuncta ministerium;*
*Et sine ferri usu pangunt sua plaustra terebris*
*Et lignum ligno consolidare solent.*

The aspect of Moldavia is very singular, perhaps at this era unique. There are two other districts in Europe which probably once resembled it greatly, but the progress of civilization and agriculture, during the course of a few centuries, has altered them, whilst Moldavia remains in its primitive state. It is intersected with marshes and small lakes in a degree curious beyond all description. Mecklenburg Strelitz, and La Vendée, in France, were formerly in the same state. La Vendée is now nearly drained dry, and the lakes of Mecklenburg are filling up. All these three countries were inhabited by the Venedic nations, or the people who dwelt on fens; the same tribes who first inhabited that part of England now called Cambridgeshire. The ancient Venedi appear to have been, like the Dutch of the present day, the Beavers of the human race — all their settlements were upon the banks of small rivers and lakes, or by the sides of fens. What instinct could have led them to choose such situations in preference to others, it is difficult at this time to conjecture, but it is more than probable that their diet was

fish and the flesh of water birds; and finding probably that the effluvia from the marshes was best obviated by covering them with water, they constructed dams across the narrows and rapids of the small rivers, and filled the marshy hollows with water, around which they dwelt in security, and lived upon the salmon and wild fowl which fattened in these artificial lakes. Most of the rivers in Moldavia are at this hour intersected with weirs, which dam the waters, and form ponds; mills are built on these weirs, and the villages are placed around them. Man in his savage state must have learned much from inspecting the labours of the brute creation. The ancient savages of Europe seem to have imitated the habits of the beaver, in constructing dams and building mud huts; for the forms of both were certainly furnished them by that singular amphibious quadruped. If the Nautilus taught them to sail, and the boar to turn up the earth, it is not discordant to reason to surmise, that the beaver and swallow were their masters in civil engineering and architecture. Count John Potocki says, "that the people of the Ukraine have an exclusive predilection for pools of water of a certain extent. Universally wherever they can arrest a stream by a dyke, they form a pool, and build a village; but where the nature of the country will not admit of such hydraulic constructions, you may traverse twelve or fifteen leagues without meeting with a single habitation." This description will apply well to Moldavia. The face of the country consists of immense undulating towns called steppes, of great beauty and vast extent, covered with the most luxuriant crops of grass, affording nourishment to herds of sheep, horses, and horned cattle. Their monotonous aspect is only interrupted from time to time by the small round lakes

before-mentioned, and sometimes villages of the most primeval character, surrounded by wattle fences, straggling at wide intervals along the grassy brows of the hills — no trees — a few thickets — no hedges, land-marks, or divisions of territory, here and there some fields of maize — hares, coveys of partridges, and other game hopping tamely along the sides of the roads — these roads almost without a pebble, and so smooth that the wheels of the carriage glide silently along, as if on the sandy beach by the shores of the sea. The Moldavian peasants, who are occasionally met driving bullock-wains of the simplest form and construction, are a rough, hardy, and simple race, clad in white woollen, or linen garments, sheep-skin caps and sandals — according with every surrounding object to inspire the idea of pastoral life in the very infancy of society, when every image and emotion was simple, peaceful, and innocent. There are some few of the grand historical landscapes of Rubens, I mean those engraved by Bolswert, which might depict the general aspect of Moldavia, and these are the only representations of nature illustrative of its character, which I have yet seen.

The first considerable village we passed was *Dorohoi*, situated like others, by the margin of a pool; the next was *Botussano*, a place of greater size, presenting some shops arranged in the Oriental manner, the owners of which were clad in the Greek costume, and sitting cross-legged within the window-seats smoking their tchibouques. At this place we passed the night in a Hebrew inn. A wedding had taken place that evening, and the savage howling, yelling, and drunken carousing of the marriage-guests prevented our closing our eyes till near day-light, when our *Fuhrmans* entered to summon us to depart.

Nor were we more fortunate on the evening of that day, which

being a Friday, our Jewish postillions halted suddenly about six in the afternoon at a village called Molla-gast *, and neither threats, bribes, nor intreaties could induce them to proceed. It is true, they attempted to procure some Moldavian peasants to drive us on to Jassy, but in that endeavour they were unsuccessful. The hostel at which we were detained was, as usual, kept by a Jew, and the children of circumcision had already extinguished their fires, and having lighted the seven-branched sabbath-lamp, by its light were chaunting " by Babel's streams," in the same dialect in which the royal poet had composed that lament. It was contrary to all their usages to permit a fire to be kindled within their doors after the sabbath-lamp was lighted; our hunger would admit of no compromise; so that we had no other resource than to pull off the thatch and wattles from an out-house, and kindle a fire in the midst of the court-yard, on which we prepared our curry, and boiled the kettle for our Chinese beverage. The house was filthier than common, and swarmed with a more than usual complement of fleas and mosquitoes; the pious concert continuing with increased nasal vigour, sleeping within doors was out of the question, there was no friendly barn to receive us, we were therefore obliged to wrap ourselves in our boat-cloaks, and pass the night in a corner of our berlines, where we spent the time, Don Quixote-like, in watching our armour by the light of the moon. The day had been very hot, the surrounding ground was swampy, and tenanted by millions of frogs, and the night-dews and exhalations were so heavy that next morning when I attempted to move, I found myself hardly able to crawl, from headach, giddiness, and other symptoms of fever. Most thankfully I heard that the

* Molla-gast, the Priest-king — probably the ancient residence of Xamolxis.

horses were put to, some Moldavians having been procured as drivers, and we proceeded. Our journey this day led us over a country of similar aspect to that already passed, excepting that we met several hordes of gypsies travelling in caravans, with patriarchal simplicity, accompanied by herds of horses and horned cattle, and by bullock waggons. The women were grotesquely attired, with large head-dresses covered with a profusion of gold and silver coins, and barbaresque ornaments, infants on their backs, or hanging to their breasts, while children from six to ten years of age, naked as they entered the world, were trudging at their heels, leading the sumpter horses, or goading the bullocks; the men were grisly and savage, with matted locks and bushy beards, half naked, or with a loose jacket of sheep-skin thrown across their shoulders; but they were finely formed and gracefully proportioned. They asserted the savage dignity of their independent character, even amidst the rags and dirt with which they were covered.

Within four miles of Jassy, we found a state carriage of the Hospodar, drawn up by the door of a cottage on the road side. A young gentleman in the Greek costume ran out from the house, to enquire of our driver if we were the English travellers from Vienna, whom he had been sent to meet, and being answered in the affirmative, he introduced himself as the *michmadar* of Prince Mourousi, and complimented us on our safe arrival in his master's territory; after offering us some refreshments, he insisted upon our alighting and entering Jassy in the Prince's carriage, which we did. We were driven into the court yard of Prince Alexander Mourousi, the nephew and son-in-law of the Hospodar, who came forward to receive us, and re-

quested we would make his house our home during our stay. My indisposition had increased so rapidly, that I was under the necessity of using a warm bath and immediately retiring to bed, taking a very efficacious sudorific of green tea with lemon juice. I awoke next morning in my usual health; after breakfast, I accompanied Colonel Gillespie and our kind host, to wait on the Prince, his father-in-law. We found his Highness seated in due form in his divan, surrounded by the officers of his little court. He arose at our entrance to address us, and, speaking in French, welcomed Sir Rollo Gillespie and myself to Moldavia; at the same time offering us seats by his side. Coffee, pipes, sherbet, and sweet-meats, were introduced in the usual Oriental fashion. After some conversation on the topics connected with travelling, also many enquiries as to the warlike preparations of the Court of Austria and the passage of the Russian troops, whom we had seen at Lemberg, he apologised for not being able to see us at his country seat, owing to the severe indisposition of the Princess his consort, but recommended us in strong terms to his son-in-law's hospitality, and begged we would prolong our stay at Jassy for a few days, and visit some spots in the neighbourhood which he said deserved being seen. From this we excused ourselves for want of time, but promised to wait upon him again, previous to our departure. Prince Alexander drove us round the town, and pointed out some very picturesque beauties of the vicinity. The situation of Jassy is indeed very fine. It lies on the southern slope of a low hill, near the marshy banks of a small river called the *Baglui*, which joins the Pruth some miles below. The town of Jassy extends for a short mile along both banks of the stream, over which there is a wooden bridge. To the south of the city

is a superb range of mountains, almost of Alpine height, clothed to the very summit with woods of magnificent growth; along the heights in many parts, we descried patches of snow, yet unmelted in the month of August. That the town occupies the site of a Roman city called *Jassiorum Municipium*, is proved by many inscriptions, coins, and medals, which are dug up frequently in the grounds around. The population which is computed at about ten thousand souls, is composed of Greeks, Albanians, Russians, Jews, and native Moldavians. The houses are built of brick, wood, and mud, those of the poor are thatched with bog-reeds, but those of the rich are covered with shingles, as in Poland. The streets, instead of being paved, are laid with massive beams of wood, resting at each extremity upon *sleepers*; these are elastic of course, and on the passing of horses and carriages, yield a loud rumbling noise, like that of a draw-bridge, while the copious floods of dark mud concealed beneath, are from time to time thrown up in jets between the opening rafters, and bedaub the pedestrians in a ridiculous manner. Although now so considerable a town, Jassy was not the seat of government until the year 1574, when Moldavia fell under the power of the Ottomans. The ancient capital and bishop's see was Suczava, a town in Upper Moldavia, situated in a valley, near the sources of the Prut, at the roots of the Transylvanian Alps, which place is now a heap of ruins, and included in the Austrian Buckovine. Jassy first became known in modern history, during the wars of Charles the Twelfth of Sweden and Peter the Great of Russia, when the Russian army, after having taken it, narrowly escaped being made prisoners of war by the

Turks under Baltagi. It was again occupied by the Russians in 1739, 1771, and 1788, on which last occasion it was held by them till 1792, when it was restored by the treaty of Jassy, signed in January, 1792, by Prince Repnin, and the Grand Vizier Yousouf.

Tufoy.

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## CHAPTER XIII.

*Marsh Effluvia. — Wolves. — Wolf-Dogs. — Greek Churches. — Fate of Prince Mourousi. — Character of Greek Hospodars. — Hippomulgi. — Xamolxis. — Longevity. — Grecian Repasts. — Night Scene on the Mountains. — Bislat the ancient Palloda. — "Ups and Downs." — Roman Causeway. — Scythian Barrows and Funeral Rites. — Servian Burials and Graves. — Galatz. — Turkish Governor Tomi.*

The exhalations from the numerous marshes around Jassy, render the inhabitants very unhealthy, and cause annually a great mortality amongst them from the severe intermittent and remittent fevers of which they are the cause. At any time likewise when the plague has entered Moldavia, Jassy has been found to suffer most severely; for example, in 1771, during the plague before alluded to, the Russian garrison here lost a prodigious number of men, including the general in command, named Stoffeln, who by his foolish prejudices, over-ruled the precautionary measures which the army surgeons wished to enforce, and contributed to propagate the contagion more widely amongst his troops, till at length it was introduced into Poland and Russia, and reached Moscow, which capital it almost depopulated. Besides the calamities of pestilence, Jassy is also subject from its locality to other ravages, arising from troops of hungry wolves, which pour down during the long winter nights,

from the forests of the adjoining mountains, and carry off the domestic animals, and sometimes even women and children. To repel these invaders, every family is provided with a brace or two of large wolf-dogs, which keep up during the night a terrific baying, and banish sleep from the eye-lids of visitors, unused to these canine watchmen. Those trusty guardians quite murdered my sleep during my stay, and made me often feel the force of the words of the Roman poet, "*vigilum canum tristes excubiæ*;" for no sounds can be more melancholy than that of 10,000 or 12,000 wolf-dogs baying the moon at intervals all night, while the distant hamlets at the foot of the mountains re-echoed the sound. During the day-time, the clatter of the wooden mallets beating the tablets at the doors of the Greek churches, calling the people to prayers, the use of bells being prohibited in the Turkish provinces, produces a most disagreeable effect.

Russia has been gradually acquiring a domination over the provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia, by efforts which have been slowly but progressively renewed. She first obtained a right of interfering in their internal administration by the treaty of Kainargik in 1774, which granted the right of appointing consuls in any port or city in the Ottoman empire. In 1781, Russian residents were appointed at the courts of Jassy and Bukarest; and in 1802 by the influence of the Russian court, the Greek Prince Ipsilanti was promoted to the government of Wallachia, and Prince Mourousi to that of Moldavia, with the express condition that neither of them should be removed from their principalities, unless proved guilty of an offence which the Russian minister at Constantinople should deem sufficient to justify their deposal. Trusting to Russian protection, Prince

Mourousi, at the time of our visit seemed to consider his government as a family fief, only to be terminated by his life, and was employed in erecting a stately palace in a commanding situation, which his son-in-law pointed out to our notice, with some exultation, as a token of the prosperity and permanency of the Mourousi dynasty. But how fallacious were these hopes! This family were not long permitted to enjoy their new residence; for after my return to England, I observed by the journals, that Prince Mourousi had died the death of most of his predecessors. It was on the 7th November 1812, that Prince Demetri Mourousi, ci-devant Hospodar of Wallachia, and one of the Ottoman plenipotentiaries at the congress of Bukarest, who signed the treaty of peace with Russia, was decapitated at Schumla, the head-quarters of the grand vizier, agreeably to orders transmitted by the Grand Seignor. We are generally assured that he suffered this catastrophe because it was known that he was a partisan of Russia.* Such was the fate of Demetri Mourousi, a fate which commonly terminates the lives of these faithless and intriguing men the Greek Hospodars. After passing several years in dangling at the levees of the Turkish viziers, flattering, lying, bribing, and undermining their rivals by malignant slanders, they become Court Dragomans, and afterwards succeed on vacancies to the principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia.' They set out for their seat of government loaded with debts, contracted in bribing the members of the Turkish divan, and surrounded by a host of needy relatives and hungry parasites, who are to be maintained and provided for by draining the peasantry of these devoted

* Extract of letter from Vienna, dated 22d December 1812.—*Morning Post Newspaper.*

provinces. The most oppressive exactions are enforced, to wrest from these wretched peasants the wealth required to pay the Grand Seignor's revenue and keep the divan in good humour; and often on returning to the shores of the Bosphorus to enjoy their ill-acquired fortunes, the bowstring or scimitar puts a period to their career. Our kind host Prince Alexander Mourousi seemed an honourable exception to this character. He was about thirty years of age, had accompanied a Turkish embassy to Paris, was well informed, and seemed to have profited from his intercourse with the enlightened society of the French capital; was a kind husband, and the happy father of two promising children. The hospitality and attention which he showed towards Colonel Gillespie and myself, and the grateful sense he evinced of some professional attentions which I had it in my power to show him, were sufficient to prove to me that in his bosom existed a high feeling of gratitude, which we often in vain look for in a more cultivated mind; and this induces me to speak of and to remember him with much esteem.

The stated salary of the Hospodar of Moldavia, although inferior to that of Wallachia, is not less than 100,000*l.* sterling annually. Besides receiving the tenth of all yearly incomes, the Prince has also, as in Germany, the exclusive monopoly of letting post-horses, and dispatching couriers; all the herds sent into Germany and Russia, also pay a poll-tax, the amount of which cannot be small, as Moldavia annually sells to foreign markets 100,000 head of horned cattle, besides sheep and horses. The other articles exported, are wax, honey, tallow, hides, corn, timber, furs, smoked meats, cheese, salt, butter, wine, and tobacco.

The total amount of taxes paid by Moldavia, as estimated in

1785, was two millions eight hundred and forty thousand piastres.

In many respects Moldavia may be regarded as one of the most interesting portions of Europe; not only as the latest of the Roman conquests, but as the favoured abode of the Hippomulgi, the patriarchal race celebrated by Homer for their length of days, purity of manners, and piety to the gods. The circumstances in which the name of Moldavia originated, are very singular. The primeval Scythian inhabitants, like the Hindoos, believed in the incarnation of the divinity in the person of a man named Xamolxis, who, after having been a slave in Greece and Egypt, returned to his native land, and hid himself for three years in a cavern, in the side of Mount Cogœon. He attempted the civilization of his countrymen, and as the most likely way to obtain their confidence in his supernatural powers, he made them believe that he possessed eternal life, and was just raised from the dead. It was the custom of the Scythian kings to retire to this holy mountain to consult this eternal Priest or Mollah; and from this patriarch the country was called *Mollah-div-ia* or the territory of the immortal Mollah.

The doctrines of Xamolxis were similar to those inculcated by Pythagoras, respect to the gods, abstinence from animal food, and a life devoted to the practice of deeds of virtue and patriotism. The effects of this system were displayed in happiness and peace of mind, healthiness of body, great length of days, and a virtuous fulfilment of the duties of society. "The Hippomulgi," says Homer, "were sustained by milk, long-lived, and the justest of men." The Dacians their successors, were, according to the Roman historians, the bravest defenders of their country, and the Moldavians of the present day possess

greater virtues than fall to the lot of more favoured nations ; yet they are oppressed by hordes of petty tyrants, and cursed by the worst of governments, a deceitful representative system. But the beauty and fertility of the soil is still as great as during the ages of their forefathers, and health and longevity are still to be found amongst the inhabitants of the Moldavian mountains.

Travellers have been unanimous in extolling the beauties of this region, and they all equally lament the oppressed condition of its inhabitants. Baron de Tott compares Moldavia to Burgundy, the finest province in France. Carra says, " I have visited almost every country in Europe, and have seen none where the distribution of the plains, hills, and mountains is so admirable both for agriculture and picturesque effect as in Moldavia and Wallachia." Thornton describes " the scenery as grand and romantic; torrents rushing down the precipices and winding through the valleys; — the delightful fragrance of the lime-flower, and the herbs crushed by the browsing flock; the solitary hut of the shepherd on the brow of the mountain — the mountain itself rising far above the clouds. Its whole surface covered except in the snowy regions, with a deep bed of vegetable earth, and every where adorned with lofty and majestic forest-trees, or with rich and lively verdure:" — he adds, that " all this assemblage of beauty which once gratified my sight, still interests me in the picture which memory retains." Such indeed must be the feelings of every individual who has once travelled through this country. The sentiments which it excites can scarcely ever be forgotten. As to myself, the sublime intensity of the impression will never be erased from my mind. General Baur laments that this beautiful country, with so fertile a soil and so fine a climate, should be thus thinly peopled,

being persuaded that it might nourish five or six times more inhabitants than it at present contains, and Carra says, that there is only one fortieth part of the arable soil in tillage. The famished inhabitants of Switzerland might here find a refuge without crossing the Atlantic ocean, and I am happy to learn that the tide of emigration even at this time has begun to flow down the Danube from the regions of the lake of Geneva. The fertility of Moldavia is quite inexhaustible. The white wines of the mountains are delicious; the wheat is excellent, and the season of harvest occurs as early as the month of June. Here, as in Spain and Portugal, the wheats instead of being thrashed by flails, are trodden out by horses, and are deposited in caves instead of barns. Maize is much cultivated, yields abundant crops, and it never disappoints the hopes of the husbandman. *Mamalika*, a pottage made of its meal, forms the principal food of the peasantry. Excepting the olive and fig-tree, all fruit-trees common to England are found in abundance, and melons and other cucurbitaceous fruits are produced in great plenty. On breaking up the virgin soil, it is the common practice first to plant cabbages, and in the intervals to sow pumpkins, which twining their large leaves over the ground, choak the weeds, and prevent their flowering. The slopes of the hills are covered with vines which produce wine in such abundance that large quantities are exported into Russia and Transylvania. The severity of the winters is turned to good account both in the manufacture of wine and the management of bees. The wine is exposed in immense butts to the open air during the severe nights of December, and when its watery particles have become frozen by the cold, they perforate the cake of ice with a hot iron, and draw off the pure and vinous

part highly concentrated.* After this process, the wine equals that of Hungary in strength and flavour. With regard to their bees, the intense colds of winter throw them into a state of torpidity, during which they consume no honey, and as the spring commences in April, and is shortly followed by the summer heats, they awaken from their winter's trance, when the flowers are already in full blow, and commence their labours anew. The management of bees is well understood both in Hungary and Moldavia, and the Austrian Government have not thought it beneath their care to institute public lectures on this subject at Vienna. There is no country in Europe where hares, partridges, deer, and wild boars are found in such abundance. The peasants of Moldavia and Wallachia track the hares in the snows, and during the winter months, the number destroyed is estimated at half a million annually. Thornton says, that the inhabitants of the plains seldom attain to 70 years of age, and are even old at 60. It may be so, but instances of longevity are still common amongst the mountaineers, and Prince Alexander told me he knew many vigorous men amongst them above 110 and 120 years of age. Several were subsequently pointed out to myself at Fockshani who had passed a century. Goitres I never observed, but Thornton asserts that complaint to be common amongst the deep and narrow valleys of the mountains.

After passing from the Hebrew and Sclavonic habitations of Poland, the contrast afforded by the habits of a Greek palace was as striking as it was agreeable. To say nothing of the superiority of the repasts, the Oriental customs of the attendants driving away the flies from the tables with large fans of peacock feathers, and the Grecian handmaids entering after every meal

* Ovid alludes to this process of freezing wine.

to pour rose water on the hands of the company, was equally novel and amusing. But it was necessary to bid adieu to these Persian luxuries, to excuse ourselves from the pressing importunities of our hosts, and pursue our route to Galatz. We were furnished with an order for gratuitous post-horses to the Danube, and a Michmadar was sent to accompany us to the banks of that river and see us safely embarked for Constantinople. The foppish manners of the Grecian *Petit-maitre* who was commissioned to this duty, displeased us, and we determined to leave him at the foot of the mountains, which we reached about sun-set, and hastened to ascend that evening in despite of all his eloquence in dissuading us from the perils of the attempt. Having divested ourselves therefore of his importunities and his company at the end of the first stage, we proceeded on our journey. After ascending for six hours by a road carried straight forward over these declivities, amongst gaps and frightful gullies, and the gloomy recesses of the forests, we reached the end of our second stage some hours after nightfall. The moon was then rising; we would willingly have proceeded, but the postillions and post-master were so loud in proclaiming the hazards and inexpediency of such a measure, descanting on the deepness of the gullies and the fragility of the rotten bridge, that we deemed it prudent to yield to their remonstrances, and await the break of day. The log-house where we halted swarmed with mosquitoes and other nameless and noisome insects, and the hard benches within promised any thing but repose; we therefore arranged ourselves around the blazing fire in front of the hut, and with the assistance of our *cuisine ambulante* indulged in the luxury of tea. Afterwards with the assistance of leaves and wolves' skins, we furnished out a Scythian bed, in which, if we did not sleep, we

could at least indulge in contemplating the savage grandeur of the surrounding objects. The bold lineaments of the Moldavian foresters, enlivened by the bright glare of the wood fire around which they squatted, the dark horrors of the surrounding forest trees, the dashing of unseen torrents, and the howlings of the distant wolves, with the pale gleams of the waning moon, composed altogether a scene worthy of the pencil of Salvator Rosa.

The dress and warlike aspect of the Moldavians is strikingly picturesque, and remains nearly the same as when Hadrian led their forefathers the Dacians, in triumph to the capitol of Rome, and when the Roman artists chisseled the *basso relievo*, for the pillar of Trajan. The colour of their cap distinguishes them from the Wallachians, whose head dresses are black, while those of the Moldavians are white. Their dialect is as bold and masculine as their looks, composed of words chiefly Latin, but intermixed with Turkish and Sclavonic. These they pronounce with great strength and rapidity of utterance, enforcing their declamation with rude gestures and grimaces. Living like the Tartars as much on horseback as on foot, they inherit the strongest affection for that admirable quadruped, talking, soothing, whistling, or holloing to their horses by starts, during their long and rapid journeys. The moment the postillions have vaulted on their backs, they wave their long whips like slingers around their heads, and giving a loud whoop, the animals set off at full speed over hill and dale, through bog and mire, regardless of the weakness of the carriage springs, the precipices on the sides of the roads, or the lack of courage in the devoted traveller. " Ever and anon" the postillions turn round their faces with a grin, as if in quest of an applauding look, and again urge on their way

with increased vigour. If one of their horses knocks up, they turn him adrift from their long rope harness, and drive on with the remainder, for one can be easily spared out of six or eight, their common number. The discarded animal is left with his two fore-legs fettered to prevent his straying, and on their return they pick him up from the fields. On stopping they imitate the Tartars in wringing the ears of their horses, in winter probably to prevent their being frost-bitten, and in summer to ascertain the vigour of the animal: when approaching the post stations, those on the look out give the word, and two or three men scamper off to the uplands, to collect the horses grazing on the steppes, which they drive down with the smack of their whips, like a pack of fox-hounds. The postmaster selects the requisite number, and the rest are then permitted to scamper back in liberty to their extensive pastures.

Our descent from the mountains to the plains on the south, was much longer and more gradual, than our approach had been from the valley on the north. The country was as rich and fertile as that which we had before traversed, and was beautifully diversified with forests, particularly on the banks of a river which wound with great majesty on the right of our road. Schentki, Vaslui, Birlat, and Pucen, were the names of the villages through which we passed. Of these, Birlat, the most considerable, is considered by D'Anville to be the ancient Palloda. It is a fine hamlet, standing in the midst of a level by the banks of the river Birlat; and here, as well as at other Moldavian towns, we saw two of the machines called "*ups and downs*," so common at our country fairs, and never wanting at any of the villages in the southern provinces of Russia. The antiquity of these ma-

chines is undisputed, and well illustrated by M. Guys in his letters on Greece.

On a large plain some miles from Galatz, we crossed the remains of a Roman causeway in good preservation, the same mentioned by D'Anville, as having extended from the Siret, near its confluence with the Danube, to the modern town of Bender on the Dniester. About the same spot, we encountered an immense collection of barrows or tumuli, the tombs of the ancient Scythians, possibly the reliques of that army which was opposed to the Persians, under Darius, son of Hystaspes. These tumuli extended at long intervals for the space of nearly three English miles. Herodotus has left us some interesting particulars respecting the funeral rites of the Scythians. The most powerful nation was called the Basilides or royal tribe, and within their territory was situated the principal burying ground to which the dead bodies of the Chiefs of all the other tribes were carried for interment. On the death of one of these warriors, his body was embalmed with a certain aromatic composition, similar to that used by the women, to refresh and beautify their skins, probably composed of the balsams of Gilead or Mecca. It was then placed upon a chariot accompanied by a concubine and some slaves, who were destined to be put to death, and interred in the tomb of their chieftain; for the purpose, as they conceived, of administering to all his wants in his new state of existence; believing as they did in a future state of *metempsychosis*. With the same intent his favourite steeds, with his arms, drinking cups, and cooking utensils, were added. As the funeral procession moved slowly along through the territories of the various tribes, the inhabitants came forth to receive it, testifying

their grief by loud wailings, and by wounding themselves in the face, and transfixing their left hands with arrows. On arriving at the appointed place of sepulture, the corpse was deposited upon the earth, and a tumulus was raised by heaping over it large logs of wood, which were covered with masses of earth, of a conical form, into which were stuck several upright javelins. The horses and slaves were then strangled, their bowels extracted, the cavities stuffed with hay and sewed up. The dead animals were next arranged in due form around the tomb, impaled in the attitudes of life, each with a dead human body stuffed, and seated on its back in an erect posture. Numbers of such tumuli, says the venerable historian, exist at a spot between the rivers Gerrh and Boristhenes, beneath the cataracts of the latter, where the river becomes again navigable for boats. The reliques of this strange custom were found existing amongst the Servians so lately as during the time of Busbequius's journey into Turkey.

The Baron had an opportunity of seeing a Servian funeral at a town called Jazodna, and has left us the following particulars: "The dead body was placed in a temple, with the face uncovered; near it were laid victuals, as bread, flesh, and a flaggon of wine: the wife and daughter of the deceased stood by in their best apparel; the daughter's hat was made of peacocks' feathers. The last boon that the wife bestowed on her dead husband was a purple bonnet, such as noble virgins used to wear in that country. Then we heard their funeral plaints, mourning, and lamentations, wherein they asked the dead corpse, how they came to deserve so ill at his hands? Wherein had they been wanting in their duty and obedience, that he had left them in such a lone and disconsolate condition? and such like queries."

" The priests that ministered in this service were of the Greek Church. In the church-yard were erected on poles or long staves, several representations of stags, hinds, and such like animals, cut in wood; when I asked them the reason of this strange custom, they told me that their husbands or fathers did thereby signify the celebrity or diligence of their wives or daughters, in managing their household affairs. Moreover, by some sepulchres there hung bushes of hair, which women, or maidens, had placed in testimony of their grief for the loss of their relations." Those who have seen an Irish or Highland funeral will discover the traces of their Scythian manners in this passage.

On quitting this plain, a rapid descent brought us to the town of Galatz, seated on the brink of the Danube. A Jew conducted us to the house of the Governor, a ghastly old Turk, with a long grey beard, shabbily equipped in a ragged silk pelisse. He was seated on a divan smoking his tchibouque, and listening with great *sang froid* to the detail of differences between some Greek and Turkish mariners, whose disputes he was settling. Having delivered to him a letter from Prince Mourousi, he read it attentively, and clapping his hands, a janissary entered, whom he dispatched in quest of a Greek Reis, whose vessel was about to sail for Constantinople. The janissary soon returned, accompanied by the Reis, and a bargain was speedily concluded, by the conditions of which it was stipulated that he should sail with ballast only, on the following day, and land us at Constantinople, the Governor threatening him with the loss of his life if he departed from the terms of this agreement.

We were then conducted to a Greek monastery, in which we were lodged in a neat clean room without furniture, where we were to pass the night. The window frames, instead of being

glazed, were covered with the membranoses, or air-bladders of sturgeon taken from the Danube.

Galatz is a thriving little town, frequented chiefly by Greek vessels which resort to it from the Bosphorus, and return laden with the produce of Moldavia. Ships of considerable size are also built here, but the wood which is used being worked up before it has dried, shrinks; and the seams opening, the vessels founder: this is one among the many causes, why the shores of the Euxine are so constantly covered with wrecks.

From the hill overhanging the town, we had a fine view of the Danube, and the mountains of Hæmus, and even fancied we could descry the white walls of Tomi, the place of banishment of Ovid, the modern name of which is Baba-dagh — the mountain-capital. It lies about 45 miles S. S. E. of Galatz, and was taken by a detachment of the Russian army under Romanzoff in 1771.

## CHAPTER XIV.

*Voyage down the Danube. — Isaxi. — Darius Hystaspes — and Miltiades. — Tulese. — Battle of Salices. — Island of Peuce. — Bastarnæ Peucinæ. — Tunny fishery. — Istropolis. — Worship of the Dioscuri. — Guardian Saints of St. Andero in Spain. — The Island of Leuce. — Temple of Achilles. — Invasion of the Amazons. — Sanctity of Islands. — Bizona. — Chiustenza. — Kavarna. — Balzachuk. — Agatopoli. — Eneada.*

After disposing of our carriages for about a fourth of their value to a Jew dealer, we embarked next day and proceeded down the river. The Reis, three Greek sailors and a boy formed our crew. We soon passed the marshy banks at the mouth of the Pruth, and then entered the southern branch of the Danube, and towards nightfall anchored close to a small island covered with reeds, bullrushes, and willows. Here the sailors landed, and having made a fire, cooked our suppers. We then formed the mainsail into an awning, and slept in our boat-cloaks and furs on the planks of the deck. By day-break next morning we were again under weigh. But there was no wind, the current was slow, and we made but little progress. In about two hours we came abreast of a small village called *Isaxi*, which lies on the right bank of the river, with a ruined castle built on a ledge of rocks, and having a small rocky islet on its front, covered likewise with a ruined tower much decayed, and of very antique

architecture. This is the spot which in all ages has been selected by invading armies for crossing the Ister. It was here that Darius, son of Hystaspes, with the assistance of the Ionians under Miltiades, threw a bridge across the river, and passed over into the Scythian deserts at the head of 700,000 Persians. It was here that in 1621 the Turks under Osman crossed the Danube or Ister, for the purpose of invading Poland. At this spot Baltaji-Mehemet, at the head of 150,000 Turks, passed over in 1711, to attack Peter the Great of Russia, encamped on the banks of the Pruth; and here, lastly, in 1771, the Russian troops under Weisseman and Romanzoff, entered the Romelian territory. The name of Isaxi, signifying the work of an army, denotes its origin. * The invasion of Darius is one of the most celebrated events recorded in ancient history, and is noted by Justin and Cornelius Nepos. It happened 513 years before the birth of Christ, and has been related with some variations by different writers. It would seem that he left Miltiades and the Ionians to guard the bridge, and advanced in person with his Persians in pursuit of the Scythians. With the Chief of the Ionians he deposited, on his departure, a cord, having on it sixty knots, one of which he ordered him to untie each day during his absence, and promised to return before they were all unloosed; but having been detained in the pursuit beyond the period he had assigned for his stay, the winter overtook him in the deserts, and the severity of the cold having frozen all the streams and wells, his army perished from hunger and thirst, and

* *Is*, labour or workmanship. — *Axi*, power, strength, an army — *Askier*, armies — or *Akah*, death, a bier, a coffin. — Turkish — *Is-is*, god of labour — Isis of Egypt. By travellers of yore this town is spelt Sacchi and Saxi.

he lost in his retreat upwards of 70,000 men. According to some authors, moreover, the Scythians had persuaded the Ionians to abandon their trust, and Darius found on his return, that the bridge had been destroyed. The morasses of Moldavia proved not less fatal to the Turkish army under Osman in 1621; when, after fruitlessly besieging Kaminia, a Polish fortress on the Dniester, Osman retraced his steps with the loss of 80,000 men and 100,000 horses.

In 1711 the Russian Czar, Peter the Great, was almost as unfortunate, for he permitted himself to be entangled amongst the marshes of the Pruth, and surrounded by the army of Baltagi, and after losing many thousands, and narrowly escaping the entire loss of his army, returned almost by a miracle, having abandoned all his conquests. The Russians, in 1771, after crossing the river, destroying Isaxi, and storming Baba-dagli * were again driven across the river, carrying with them the plague to Jassy and Moscow. So that without enumerating the hordes of barbarians who perished at various times during the decline of the Roman empire, at this fatal passage, the straits of Isaxi have perhaps witnessed as great a destruction of the human race as any spot in the known world. The difficulty of carrying an army through Moldavia may be readily conceived by the single fact, that in 1736, Count Munich commanding the Russians, found it necessary to employ 90,000 waggons to supply an army which never exceeded 80,000 men; to cover which convoys, he was forced to march them in

* Baba-dagh — the ancient Tomi. *Baba*, capital; — *Dagh*, a mountain or stone. The Turkish army were encamped here three years. — See *De Tott's Mem.*

the centre of hollow squares, to keep off the Turkish horsemen. The swampiness of the lower part of Moldavia is expressed by both its appellations. Bess-Arabia meaning the watery Arabia, and Tais-ia or Dacia the moist or watery territory, which names any one on inspecting the map may perceive it is well entitled to bear.

On passing Isaxi *, we were hailed from the shore by a Turk, who ordered us to bring to, and permit him to come on board. Instead of preparing to obey his orders, our crew skulking down on deck, endeavoured to conceal themselves; but on passing the island we discovered that the Turk, having followed us in a canoe alone, was paddling after us. My companion and I, therefore, shouted to him, and warned him off, which, as he disregarded, we presented the muzzles of two loaded rifles over the stern, a language which he seemed to have no difficulty in comprehending; for the old Cyclops (he had but one eye) immediately put about his canoe, and paddled back to his den, spluttering and cursing us for Christian dogs. This fellow, as well as we could comprehend, wished to levy a contribution, to which he had no other title than that of force, and our Reis seemed delighted at having escaped, although he said he dreaded the idea of returning soon to Galatz, for fear of his future revenge. At a few miles lower down the Ister our crew landed at a Bulgarian village, called Tulese†, for the purpose of purchasing goats' milk; but the inhabitants mistaking them for Turks, fled at their approach, and abandoned their houses, so that we were disappointed in our object.

* Isaxi was burnt down by the Russian army under Romanzoff.

† Tulese seems to have been a fortified position in the days of De Tott. — See *The Baron's Memoirs.*

It was near this village, probably, that the celebrated battle of Salices happened, which, for a time, saved the Western Empire from the barbarians. It occurred during the 377th year of the Christian era, and so signal was the defeat of the Visigoths, that for seven days afterwards they remained closely pent up in their *carrago* of waggons, without venturing out to pick up their wounded or dead, who were abandoned to the fowls of the air. Ammianus relates, that many years afterwards he saw their white and naked bones blanching in the sun on the field of battle. The Ister at this point divides into seven streams, and its banks, which are frequently overflowed, are from hence to the Black Sea, a continued low dead flat, covered with willow, alder, and tamarisk trees, intermingled with lofty reeds, sedges, and bulrushes, at whose feet, close upon the margin of the stream, we observed great multitudes of pelicans, swans, geese, ducks, herons, storks, and other aquatic birds, sitting on their nests. On the extreme point of low land, stretching into the Euxine, we passed a fishing village (*kiliastara*), some of the inhabitants of which hailed us from their boats, offering to sell us fish, and from them we procured five large sturgeons for about three shillings sterling.

These men, an industrious, but barbarous and filthy race, are the descendants of the *Bastarnæ Peucinæ**, a horde of Teutonic origin, who, during the reign of Probus, having been expelled from the regions of the Bastarnic Alps, their ancient settlements, migrated, to the number of one hundred thousand, towards the banks of the Ister, and received permission to pass over and occupy the *Peuce*, or Danubian Delta, where they built villages, and subsisted

* *Bess*, water — *tarn*, a clan.

upon the fisheries of tunny and sturgeon, which abound in the lower Danube. In the *Peuce* are frequently found various Greek coins, amongst others, those of a city called Istros, or Istropolis, which D'Anville thinks once occupied the site of *Kara-Hirman*, "the black fortress," a place on the southernmost branch of the Ister. On one side is represented a water-bird devouring a tunny fish, the legend ΙΣΤΡΙΗ · Η· On the reverse are two human heads turned in opposite directions, the meaning of which antiquaries have ever been puzzled to determine. Isaac Vossius, in his notes on Pomponius Mela, conjectured that they referred to the river Danube, which was believed in ancient times to communicate with two seas, the Euxine and the Adriatic. Begerus thinks that they referred to the local situation of the city placed between Europe and Asia, but the most probable notion is, that they represented the heads of the *Dioscuri*, Castor and Pollux, whose constellations were favourable to mariners, of which one rose in the east, when the other was setting in the west. —

> "*Alternantes per vicem, diem unum quidem apud patrem charum Jovem degunt, alterum autem sub latebris terræ.*"
>
> PINDAR. NEM. *Od.* x.

General Vallancey in his *Collect. de Rebus Hibernicis*, derives the epithet Dioscuri from *Di*, God, and *Oscar* a voyager or traveller; and says that, at the city of *Dioscurias* on the Black Sea, now called Isi-gour, in the country of Colchis, the rites of the Cabiri were first established. There is no doubt that they were the tutelary gods of navigation, and that their worship was widely diffused over all the sea-ports of Europe, wherever the Phenicians and Milesians had extended their commerce. A

very extraordinary proof of this fact, exists at this hour at the port of St. Andero, in the north of Spain. In the earlier ages of Christianity, the local Pagan deities were admitted into the Christian church, after receiving a new name, and being canonized as saints. Thus Castor and Pollux, the Dioscuri of St. Andero, were received into the Catholic calendar under the names of *Honorius* and *Arcadius*, and a legend was invented to tally with their new appellations. According to it, the heads of these two noble martyrs for the truth of Christianity, floated one afternoon into the harbour of St. Andero in a boat of stone, and having reached the shore, some fishermen took the heads out of the stone boat, which having performed its divine mission, immediately sunk. The bleeding heads were deposited with due solemnity in the Cathedral church, where they are kept to this hour under a triple lock, the keys of which are in the custody of the Bishop, Chapter, and Municipality of St. Andero. Once a year, in the month of September, these two heads are taken out with much pomp, and carried in procession round the city, attended by the clergy, the magistracy, and all the inhabitants, as I had myself an opportunity of witnessing in the autumn of 1812. After the performance of these ceremonies, they were again returned to the sacred niche in the cathedral. On the armorial bearings of Santander, these heads are represented in the same way as upon the coins of Istropolis. The mysteries of the Dioscuri were performed in the night, and children of a certain age were sacrificed as a preservative against the dangers of shipwreck. Even at this day, the belief in the efficacy of a child's cawl carried to sea has not ceased, which is certainly a relique of this Pagan worship.

A very extraordinary rippling is caused by the meeting of the waters of the Danube with those of the Black Sea; and as the former are muddy and charged with whitish sediment, the distinction between the two currents may be traced out many miles from the shore.

The day was fine and the atmosphere remarkably clear, and with our telescopes we had a very distinct view of the white cliffs of the island of Leuce, lying to the north-east of our course, about six miles.

This island, called also Macaron, or by the Turks *Ilan Adasi*, the island of serpents, has been celebrated in classic lore as the fabled abode of Achilles after his decease; where, according to poetic legends, he was united in marriage to Helena or Iphigenia, and enjoyed immortal happiness in company with his friends Patroclus, the two Ajaxes, and Antilochus. The most marvellous stories are to be found in ancient writers, respecting Leuce, which was celebrated for containing the temple, statue, and sepulchre of the hero of the Iliad.

The whole island is of small extent, uninhabited, and serving only as a secure retreat to innumerable flocks of sea birds, swans, pelicans, halcyons, wild geese, &c. Here, in certain valleys destined by Jupiter for the reception of the souls of illustrious men, who had dedicated their lives to the service and glory of their country, an elysium was prepared where they were admitted to eternal life in company with Achilles and his immortal companions. To the sea-birds was committed the charge of the temple, none flying past without alighting, while every morning they were described as repairing to the sea, to dip their pinions in the waves, and return to sweep the marble pavement with

their moistened plumage. The interior recesses of this mysterious fane were filled and adorned with a profusion of votive offerings and rich presents: — flagons, paterae, rings, garments, armour, and precious stones were said to cover the columns, on which were inscribed verses in praise of Achilles and Patroclus. Many voyagers repaired thither, expressly to worship their shades, taking with them kids and goats, some of which were offered in sacrifice, and others abandoned in freedom on the island. As to the navigators of the Euxine, they never approached its shores without landing to visit the temple and offer gifts. Achilles was said to appear at times in dreams to those approaching the isle, directing them to the safest landing-place; and it was even affirmed that he had been seen attended by his friend Patroclus, not during the visions of the night, but when the parties were wide awake, and under the same form in which the *Dioscuri* appear in all other parts of the ocean hovering over the masts of the ship; but with this difference only, that Achilles and Patroclus were never seen except in the immediate vicinity of Leuce. After landing, the votaries proceeded to consult the oracle, and to learn whether the hero would deign to accept the proffered sacrifice, and what price was to be paid for the animal to be seized on the spot and offered to him. The money was then spread before the altar, and additions were still made to the offering, until the divinity appeared satisfied with its amount. Then the animal presented itself spontaneously for the sacrifice. Hence, there was always a large treasure lying exposed in the temple, which no one ever had the impiety to violate. Besides, the voyagers were always required to return in the evenings on board their vessels, as no human being had

ever remained ashore on the island for a single night without forfeiting his life. Such was the tale of wonders related of this remote island. Nor must we omit the fatal catastrophe which befel the Amazons during the expedition undertaken by them to pillage the temple. Some merchants belonging to a town on the shores of the Euxine, having been shipwrecked at the mouth of the Thermodon, fell into the power of the Amazons; who seized upon the strangers, bound them, and were about to dispose of them as slaves to the Scythians. One of these young men having requested and obtained an interview with the Queen's sister, pointed out to her the immense booty which might be easily obtained by making a descent on the island of Achilles, and offered himself as a guide. The Amazons, although it was contrary to their established customs to undertake practical expeditions, did not hesitate to seize on so favourable an opportunity of enriching themselves, and at the same time of gratifying their hereditary vengeance against the memory of a warrior who had so deeply injured their nation. The merchants were employed to superintend the construction and equipment of fifty galleys intended for their voyage, and with this fleet they proceeded to the island of Leuce. On landing, they were directed by the merchants to cut down the sacred grove which surrounded the hero's temple. But no sooner had they commenced this sacrilege, than the axe-heads quitted their handles, and striking the bodies of their mistresses, laid them dead on the spot. More enraged than astonished at this prodigy, the surviving Amazons rushed with fury towards the temple itself, but scarcely had they approached the statue of the hero, when they were struck dumb with unknown horror,

and turning round with the fury of lionesses on their own companions and guides, tore them in pieces with their nails and teeth. Rushing thence with shrieks through the island, they ravaged its valleys and recesses, and at length fled deliriously to the shores, and precipitated themselves from the cliffs into the sea. At the same time, a furious tempest arose which overwhelmed the Amazonian fleet, and dashed it on the rocks. One or two vessels only with a few wounded Amazons, escaped from the fatal shore, and regained the port of Thermodon to tell the afflicting tale, and communicate to their companions a knowledge of the disasters which had arisen from this impious enterprise.[10]

It is worthy of remark how prone the ancients were to consecrate remote and lonely islands to religious observances. At the confines of the Western Ocean, in the Baltic, the North Sea, the Mediterranean, the Euxine, the Indian Ocean, in every sea, and upon every coast, we might point out islands which have from the earliest ages been hallowed and set apart for the worship of Pagan divinities; and many of which on the destruction of idolatry were occupied and set aside by the fathers of the Christian church for abbeys and monasteries. Independently of the facility of rendering them neutral territories, and approaching them with ease by means of boats from the adjacent coast, which in the infancy of human society were conditions of no small moment to savage and hostile tribes, there would seem to have been some other qualities common to all insular situations, which adapted them more exclusively to the celebration of divine mysteries, and the observances of hallowed seclusion. Their circular shapes, their rugged approaches,

their secluded situations; the grandeur and immensity of their surrounding perspective, the amenity of their natural features, their abstraction from all the business and bustle of life, would seem to point them out as the proper scenes for the contemplation of a power, isolated, self-existent, eternal, immutable, invisible, almighty, and incomprehensible to the reach of human powers and understanding.

Hence Samothrace, Delos, and Cyprus, in the Archipelago", Leuce in the Euxine, Hirta and Sky amongst the Hebrides, the Isle of Rhé on the coast of France, Heligoland in the North Sea, Rugen in the Baltic, and Elephanta near Bombay, besides various others of lesser note*, appear from the earliest dawn of history, to have been places of the greatest sanctity and veneration.

The coast stretches in a dead flat along the shore of the Black Sea, from the southern mouth of the Ister, till it meets a promontory extending from the grand chain of Mount Hæmus, upon the extreme point of which stand some ruined arches, resembling those of an aqueduct; this spot answers to the situation ascribed by D'Anville to the ancient town of Bizona†, swallowed up by an earthquake. Between these ruins and the Sunnian branch is the fortress of Kara Hirman, and about ten miles inland, on a promontory rising over a lake formed by the Danube, is Babadagh, before mentioned, the ancient Tomi of Ovid. The ruins of Chiustenza, the ancient Constantina; and Kavarna and Balzachuk, spread at intervals along the shore. The whole of this day we made but little progress, the winds being

* Paphos and Cnidus were both sacred to Venus, as

" *O Venus regina Cnidi Paphique.*" — Hor. Lib. 1. Od. 30.

† Bizona — *Biz*, a point or promontory; *ona*, a City: or riches — strength.

light and baffling. Next morning, (Monday, 16th September,) the sun rose, coloured with the deepest crimson, the clouds were collecting in gloomy masses along the horizon, and rolling in awful majesty over the sides of the dark mountains of Thrace. Our Greek mariners surveyed these appearances with great anxiety, and with doleful looks predicted an approaching storm; and the Reis, altering his course, soon run us close in with the land, where, on a rocky shore, we remarked a number of small windmills, with sails of a singular form. Passing these we suddenly entered a circular recess in the rock, which had all the appearance of the crater of an extinct volcano. "Agatopoli," said the Reis, pointing to a few wretched cottages huddled together along the impending edge of the bason. "Agatapoli, Signores," repeated the crew, throwing a hawser on shore, which some Greek fishermen quickly caught up and made fast to a rock. Our crew lost no time in leaping ashore, and commencing the landing of a quantity of wooden ware, bowls, jugs, pitchers, &c. which contrary to our agreement they had brought from Galatz, where they are manufactured by the Moldavian Zinganies. After having permitted them to land their wares, and surveyed in person the misery of the town, we thought it but just to remonstrate against this breach of covenant, and as the gale that had been predicted did not seem to increase, we forced the captain and his crew to unmoor and put to sea. However we had hardly quitted the shelter of the shore, when the gale became so violent, that our sailors who had been before only sulky, were seized with all the agonies of despair, and throwing themselves on the quarter-deck, before a picture of the Panagia, refused to obey the orders of their chief or trim the latteen sails. Some of them bursting

into tears beseeched permission to run the ship into harbour. The waves were rising rapidly and breaking short over the deck in an unusual manner, and considering the weak construction of the bark, the absence of hatchways, a loose, shifting, shingle ballast, and the state of the crew, we thought it better to comply with their wishes; and the captain putting the helm up, soon run the bark into the roadstead of Eneada, where we anchored abreast of a ruined tower, in about three fathoms water.

As the harbour of Eneada affords the only safe anchorage between the Danube and the Bosphorus, on the European shore, for vessels of any size distressed by a gale of wind, and as there is not even a creek between it and the Bosphorus, we had ample reason to thank Providence that we had followed the advice of the sailors. The gale continued with increased violence for several days, and before we left it upwards of thirty sail of kaiques, and Turkish *chekterweks* were forced in by stress of weather. Dr. Clarke, in the first volume of his Travels, has given so accurate an account of this beautiful inlet, that I have only to bear witness to his great fidelity on this occasion, as on others.

When our crew had dined, I accompanied them on shore, my companion, from a severe head-ach, being unable to join us. We landed behind a large fragment of rock, which seems to have been thrown down by some violent convulsion of nature from the cliff above, adjoining to the ruined square tower. Here the sailors filled their casks at a spring of excellent water, and we then clambered to the uppermost of the two Turkish coffee-houses, where we found some janissaries regaling with pipes and coffee. The master of the house, a Turk, produced some

coffee, which, with difficulty I swallowed, as, besides being boiling hot, it was both thick and muddy, and without sugar or milk. While I attempted to sip this bitter cordial, a Turkish barber was showing his address in trimming the chins of the boats' crew. This operator was, I suspect, the identical "Mungo here, Mungo there," whom Dr. Clarke had seen five years before. — He was dressed in a striped cotton waistcoat and apron, and his head-dress consisted of a Turkish calpac, which served to display the singular features of a very grotesque physiognomy.

While this was passing on the steps before the coffee-house, several janissaries arrived from the beach, with some zinganies, who, to the sound of a three-stringed balalaika, commenced dancing for their amusement. The beach below was occupied by Turkish boats, loading with charcoal, and every thing seemed much in the same state in which Dr. C. described it to be at the time of his visit.

The following day some of the boat's crew set off to a village about eight miles distant, to procure milk and fruit. They were absent eight hours, and returned in the evening, bringing back bread, buffalo-milk, water-melons, and grapes. We had intended to accompany them, but the Greek Reis dissuaded us, on account of the hatred which these mountaineers bear to Franks. He hinted some other traits in their character, in consequence of which we determined to remain by the ship, and explore the shore. Towards the point the rocks presented the appearances mentioned by Dr. Clarke, of basaltic columns decomposing; we also remarked the columns under water, and saw some traces of a ruined mole. Connecting these circumstances with the name of the place, and with a passage in Virgil, I am inclined to think

that this is the identical place upon which Æneas founded his first city after flying from the ruins of Troy.

> " *Terra* procul *vastis colitur Mavortia campis,*
> *Thraces arant, acri quondam regnata Lycurgo;*
> *Hospitium antiquum Trojæ, sociique Penates,*
> *Dum Fortuna fuit. Feror huc, et littore curvo*
> *Mœnia prima loco, fatis ingressus iniquis;*
> *Æneadasque meo nomen de nomine fingo.*"

From this settlement he was driven by some dreadful prodigies connected with a sacrifice to Jupiter, and the savage disposition of his surrounding neighbours. But the circumstances which really occasioned his removal might have been the repeated shocks of earthquakes which ruined his infant establishment. Geographers have concurred in fixing on a town called *Ænos*, at the mouth of the Hebrus, a situation not very probable, on account of its vicinity to the enemies of the Trojan name. Is it not more likely that on the sacking of Troy, the survivors would have taken refuge amongst their neighbours and allies the Amazons, who inhabited the coast of Bithynia, upon the Euxine, and with their assistance, might they not have transported themselves to Eneada, a place so far removed from the attacks of the Greeks, and which was besides recommended by ancient alliances and early attachments? Virgil states that it was in a distant country, which expression would hardly apply to Ænos, a town so near the mouth of the Hellespont. The conjecture here stated, seems strengthened by the name of the adjacent town of Agatopoli; which may be a corruption of Achato-polis, the city of Achates, the trusty friend of the hero of the Æneid. D'Anville, it is true, derives Eneada from Thynnias, one of the cities of Appollonia,

and Agatopoli may be a corruption of Agatho-polis; still the first conjecture seems to have much probability to support it.[12]

On the fourth morning, the gale having subsided, we weighed anchor and sailed from Eneada, with a fair breeze and beautiful weather. The sailors forming themselves in a circle, reposed on the deck, and sung Greek airs. The Reis, a handsome middle aged man managed the helm, seated by the *tiller*, which was adorned with gilding and hung with rows of coloured glass beads, completely illustrative of the situation of the luckless Palinurus, the steersman of Æneas, who, when thus seated on the lofty poop, was overtaken by sleep, and fell into the sea, carrying the broken tiller in his hand, into the fatal domains of Neptune:

"*Ipse gubernator puppi Palinurus ab altâ,*" &c.

The whole passage is one of the most beautiful in the Æneid, and the concluding lines extremely pathetic,

"*O nimium cœlo et pelago confise sereno,*
*Nudus in ignotâ, Palinure, jacebis arenâ!*"

Towards sun-set we came in sight of the village of *Domusdere*, and the chasm in the mountains through which the waters of the Euxine have forced themselves "the enchanted passage." So high and perpendicular are the rocks on each side, and so completely do these mountains fold into each other, that we were very near the shore before we could perceive the recess. A Turkish village and fort called *Ushumeri* first showed their white walls along the beach, and soon after, as the sun and wind went down we found ourselves wafted by the mighty current under the tower of the European light-house, Fanaraki. Before we had reached the castles of De Tott, the short twilight had almost dis-

*Agalapoli a Port in the Black Sea.*

Published by Messrs Longman Hurst Rees Orme & Brown Paternoster Row 1818.

Harbour of Varna on the Black Sea.

Published by Messrs. Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme & Brown, Paternoster Row, 1808.

appeared. From along the shores on either hand we heard the hoarse voices of Turkish mariners shouting to their companions; the echoes repeated the sounds from cliff to cliff, but the beings who uttered them were veiled beneath the shadows of the precipices which impended over the Bosphorus[13]; then as we came abreast of the castles, we were hailed by the centinels from the Asiatic shore; but on declaring ourselves, were permitted to proceed. Presently, the lights of the village of Buyukdere flashed upon the eye, and danced in long reflected rays, from the surface of the rippling current, which was bearing us in silence at the rate of several miles an hour*, amidst a fleet of fishing boats, each carrying a light in the prow, by the assistance of which, the fishermen were spearing tunnies, according to the ancient Greek manner, alluded to by Oppian in his Cynegetics.

> " *Quemadmodum vero pisces per noctem dolosi piscatores*
> *Ad* bolum *impellunt, velocibus scaphis ferentes*
> *Lucidas faces: trepidant verò conspicati*
> *Pisces; neque sustinent agitatam flammam.*"
>
> OPP. CYNEG. Lib. 4.

Our voyage was terminated on finding ourselves alongside of the quay at the village of Terapia, where we joyfully leapt ashore.

Those, and perhaps those only, who have traversed uncivilised regions and unfrequented seas, amidst storms, inquietudes, and numberless discomforts, can judge of the feelings of travellers, on finding themselves again hailed by the voices of countrymen, and greeted with the language of welcome and hospitality.

* The Turks called the Bosphorus, *Cheitan Akendissi*, or the Devil's Stream—" the enchanted current."

It is then that the words of Catullus will rush upon our memory, and that we are tempted to exclaim, with that illustrious Roman traveller — *

> " *O quod solutis est beatius curis*
> *Quando mens onus reponit, ac peregrino*
> *Labore fessi venimus larem ad nostram*
> *Desideratoque requiescimus lecto.*"
>
> CAT. Carm. XXX.

* Catullus travelled through Asia Minor, and resided for some time at Nicea.

## CHAPTER XV.

*Terapia — its beautiful situation. — Classical associations — with the events of the Argonautic expedition. — Altar of Phryxus. — Tomb of Amycus. — Temple of Jupiter Urius. — Darius Hystaspes. — Gardens of Sultani-Baktchi. — Turkish apathy. — Illness of the Sultana Validè. — Author's visit to the Sultana. — Turkish superstition and ignorance. — Death of the Sultana. — Her last interview with her son. — Her character.*

The situation of Terapia rivals in sublimity all that the mind of man can well conceive. Built on a little rocky promontory overhanging the "enchanted current" of the Bosphorus, surrounded by mountains as rich and beautiful in their natural features, as they are interesting from their classical associations, under a climate which, for at least nine months in the year, is perfectly delicious, what spot on earth could the Greeks have more aptly denominated "Healing."

Not a rock or precipice, not a grove or ruined temple, but recalls the recollection of some hero of antiquity, chaunted by the poet, or celebrated by the historian. There tradition had placed the palace of King Phineas; the summit of that mountain was occupied by the temple of Jupiter Urius; along that silver current did the intrepid Argonauts pass, to encounter the terrors of an unknown and inhospitable element; on that promontory did Phryxus offer sacrifice to the Gods; here Medea

uttered her incantations: from yonder pinnacle the ambitious Darius Hystaspes first contemplated the savage coast of Thrace, and the mazes of the Cyanean rocks; beneath yonder grove reposed the giant limbs of Amycus, king of Bithynia, "the Og of Bashan" in Grecian poetry: — Alas! the tomb has closed alike over the recorders and the recorded. — The boldest of navigators, the prince of poets, the first of healers, and the most learned of enchanters, have for ages mouldered into dust; Scythians and Amazons, Trojans and Parthians, "lost in the gloom of years" have passed away, and their names alone survive, to excite the admiration or the scepticism of mankind. Hordes of illiterate barbarians from the frozen regions of Caucasus have occupied this scene of enchantment, and we, the pilgrims of a remote island, unknown to Apollonius, Homer, Hesiod, or Orpheus, repair to contemplate those superb countries, which their verses have consecrated to immortality. Such was the crowd of reflections excited in my mind by the morning view, which burst upon my sight, from the windows of my bedchamber in the Ambassador's palace; I was lost in wonder and delight — a thousand emotions, till then unknown, were awakened, and that sublime passage rushed forcibly on my mind:

> "How poor! how rich! how abject! how august!
> How complicate! how wonderful is man!
> How passing wonder HE who made him such,
> Who centered in our make such strange extremes,
> From different natures marvellously mixt,
> Connexion exquisite of distant worlds!"

The book of Petrus Gyllius on the Thracian Bosphorus, will be found the best guide in exploring the surrounding scenery. That valley which was the retreat of Amycus, is now occupied

by the gardens of *Soultani-Baktchi*, a palace built by Sultan Selim the First, but which, like those of so many of the Ottoman princes, is now in ruins. A murmuring brook winds through this beautiful glade, and an English renegado, named Selim Effendi, was engaged in constructing a paper mill on its banks, by order of the reigning Sultan. The approach to this retreat, is by a fine quay of massy architecture, which has procured from the French the appellation of *l'échelle du Grand Seigneur.* Hither the ladies of the seraglio and the adjoining villages repair during the heats of summer, to enjoy the music of the groves, or listen to the voices of their slaves, accompanied by the sounds of guitars. Frequently at the time of our visits, have we found them in groupes reposing under the shadows of the magnificent chesnuts and Oriental plane trees. To my imagination this spot " the nymphæum of the maddening laurel," seemed to realise all the ideas of sylvan magnificence, conveyed by the superb landscapes of Annibal Caracci, and Nicholas Poussin. Here was the same gigantic grandeur in the boles and branches of the trees, the same depth of verdure in the foliage, and intensity of the receding shadows, while the patriarchal costume of the bearded Turks supplied, not very inadequately, the groupes which these painters have transmitted to us, of Orpheus, and Eurydice, Phocion, and Demosthenes, Cicero or Pericles.

Travellers have repeatedly noticed the superstitious reverence in which the Mussulmans hold the groves of their ancestors. The sylvan deities, as with the ancient Indians and Scytho-Indians, are still contemplated with awe, and it is held sacrilegious to cut down trees planted in their cemeteries or gardens. Thus, while the palaces and kiosks of their departed monarchs are permitted

to crumble into dust, the trees which they had planted, are protected by religion; and improving in beauty during the silent lapse of centuries, are permitted to wave in peaceful grandeur over their neglected haunts, and veil the ruins of magnificent fountains and pavilions. The slumbering Turk smokes tranquilly at their feet, or laves himself in the spring at the accustomed hour of prayer, and contents himself with proclaiming the unity of the Deity, and the divine legation of Mahomet, calmly awaiting, amidst the dilapidated monuments of human art, or the countless sepulchres of departed generations, the moment when his spirit also shall be called upon to quit this terrestrial scene, and enter the abodes prepared for the enjoyment of true believers.

Still, fatalism and apathy have their limits, and the proud infidel, in the hour of sickness, does not disdain to invoke the assistance of the *Giaour* to delay the approach of death. Of this I had a memorable instance within a few days after my arrival at Terapia, when, very unexpectedly, I received a message from the Emperor Selim the Third, to visit his mother the Sultana Validè. Mr. Pisani, the senior Dragoman, was the bearer of this request, and the following morning I set off by water for the seraglio, accompanied by one of the junior Dragomans. We were put ashore at a quay near Baktchi Capoussi, where we found a Bostanji in waiting, to conduct us to the house of the principal Court Physician, who lived in a narrow street adjoining the wall of the seraglio. On arriving there, we were informed that he had already gone to see his patient, having left instructions that we should follow him, which we did, entering the gardens by the little white gate (*Tauke Chesmè Capoussi*) near the chapel of St. Irene. We passed a guard-house of Bostanjies

on our left, and then proceeded under an avenue of lofty cypress trees, towards a second guard-house, whence we were conducted to a detached pavilion, in which we found the Hekim Basha, or Turkish physician, Mahmoud Effendi, a Greek physician, named Polychronon, the *Kislar Agassi*, a hideous Ethiopian, the chief of the black eunuchs; the *Hazni Vekili*, also a black eunuch, keeper of the privy purse, and some dervises and muftis. After being introduced, and going through the usual routine of pipes, coffee, sherbet, and sweetmeats, Polychronon conversing in Latin, entered into a detailed statement of the malady with which the Sultana was afflicted, namely, an inveterate quartan ague, of upwards of eighteen months' standing. From this she had recovered more than once, but had relapsed as often, owing, in part, to her own want of due caution, and to the officious interference of a set of muftis who beset her, and forced upon her large draughts of iced water, in which they immersed talismans, assuring her that they would establish her convalescence; but on the contrary, these draughts invariably brought back the cold fits of her ague.[14] Upon the last relapse, some days before I saw her, she had, during the cold paroxysm, been suddenly bereft, in her lower extremities, of all power of motion and sense of feeling; and it was upon this point, and some others also, that my opinion was requested. Indeed I was to decide, as I found, between three of her physicans, who called themselves Boerhaavians, and four others, who professed themselves strict Brownonians, as to the expediency of prescribing a cathartic medicine, the former pressing the absolute necessity of such a remedy after five days' constipation, and the latter most foolishly declaring it to be perfectly inadmissible, according to their interpretation of the doctrine of Brown. This being premised, we all accom-

panied the *Kislar Agassi* to an adjoining kiosk, in which was the Sultana. After exchanging my shoes at the door for a pair of yellow slippers, *papouches*, we entered the royal apartments. On a mattrass, or *minder*, in the middle of the floor, was extended a figure covered with a silk quilting, or *Macat*, richly embroidered. A female figure veiled was kneeling at the side of her pillows, with her back towards the door of entrance, and the *Kislar Agassi* beckoned to me to kneel down by her side, and examine the pulse of the Sultana. Having complied with this request, I expressed a wish to see her tongue and countenance, but that, I was given to understand, could not be permitted, as I must obtain that information from the report of the chief physician. The most profound silence was observed in the apartment, the eunuchs and physicians conversing only by signs. The *Hazni Vekili* then took me by the arm, and turned me gently round, with my face towards the door of entrance, over which was a gilded lattice, concealing the Emperor Selim, who had placed himself there to witness the visit. Our stay in the room did not exceed fifteen or twenty minutes. The four large windows were shaded externally by gilded lattices, and the intervening pannels were covered with mirrors and arabesque tapestry. The divan, which encircled the chamber, was veiled with crimson cloth, richly embroidered with gold, surrounded with cushions of the same description, and the floor was covered with a superb Persian carpet.

On our return to the first pavilion, I, of course, coincided with the Boerhaavians, and wrote a prescription to that effect. Indeed, had she been a princess of any other European court, it is probable that a large bleeding would have been decided upon; but from the ignorance and prejudices of her attendants, I found

it impossible to convince them of its necessity, and on considering that the mistakes, real or imaginary, of the Turkish court physicians are frequently visited by the bow-string, I had but little inclination to bring the lives of my colleagues into farther jeopardy. The *Hekim-Bachi* and *Hazni Vekili* therefore carried my prescription and interpreted it to the Sultan, who, in return sent back a complimentary message, and a purse containing one hundred and fifty sequins. The bloated *Kislar Agassi* next detained us in conversation some time. With his squeaking voice he detailed his own hypochondriacal ailments, and beguiled his *ennui* by stretching out his wrist, whilst I was fruitlessly endeavouring to feel the stagnant current of his radial artery, which, by a singular *lusus naturæ*, did not reach the usual place, but divided into two branches about the middle of the fore-arm. In the left wrist, however, the pulse was manifest.

During my conversation with Polychronon, my ear was frequently struck with the words "*imperator noster.*" Seated amidst mutes and eunuchs, in the very palace of Constantine, conferring in the Roman tongue with a Greek of the city of Athens, on the health of the Helena of the day, a thousand strange associations rushed forcibly on my mind. Then the horned turban of the *Kislar Agassi* suggested the recollection of the departed dynasty of Egypt, and I, another stranger, seemed like the son of Abraham, conversing with the butler and baker of Pharaoh, interpreting their dreams. The Sultana who was the subject of our conference, only survived eight days, being then in her seventy-second year. Her corpse was deposited the same day with much pomp, in a *Turbi*, or sepulchral chapel, which she had had constructed for herself, near the "sweet waters." The affrighted Archiater, Mahmoud Effendi, after passing two days in great alarm, lest the Sultan should send

a mute with a bowstring, was agreeably relieved by a kind message from Selim, the most humane of the Ottoman Princes. On throwing himself at his master's feet, Selim raised him from the ground, assuring him of a continuance of his favour and esteem; being convinced, as he said, that every effort had been used to prolong his mother's days, but that the Almighty had numbered them, and that the dispensations of divine mercy must be received without repining.

This Archiater, a man about thirty years of age, and of an excellent physiognomy, had been educated at Vienna in the school of Van Swieten, and the doctrines of Boerhaave. He had acquired much reputation and great riches, from having cured the Sultana Validè about twelve months before, on her first attack. For, according to Turkish etiquette, on such occasions all the grand officers of the seraglio present the *Hakim Basha* with rich presents; and in this instance, those gifts, joined to the donation of a handsome palace on the banks of the Bosphorus, from the Sultan himself, did not amount to a less sum than twenty thousand pounds sterling; but the ill-directed superstition of the Mufti undid all that Mahmoud's skill had effected, and eventually deprived the Sultan of his best adviser and friend. The conduct of Selim towards another Turk on this melancholy event, was humane and worthy of notice. This was Yusuf Aga, the favourite and attendant of Validè, a man who had amassed immense wealth under her protection, which he had abused on many occasions, and created himself a host of enemies. When the Sultana felt herself dying, she sent for her son, and making him kneel down by the side of her couch, she with tears implored his forbearance and future protection in behalf of her favourite. It is said that she even required the

Sultan to repeat an oath after her, that he never would injure a hair of Yusuf's head, and that if he failed in mercy towards him, or neglected his advice, he prayed Allah that every drop of milk which he had sucked from her breasts, might prove as poison within his veins. The Sultana then kissed her son, and soon afterwards expired. This maternal denunciation, the most tremendous to a Turk that can be imagined, was duly remembered by Selim, who did not confiscate a single piastre of the many millions that Yusuf had amassed. About twelve months afterwards, Yusuf was sent into Asia as governor of Erzerum — and Selim fell into the snares of his enemies Mousa Pacha the crafty Kaimakan; the affair of the Dardanelles and the revolt of the Janissaries succeeded; Selim was betrayed into the power of his enemies and deposed. The maternal denunciation was in a manner fulfilled by the violent death of Selim. The Sultana had been a woman of great beauty, and strong natural talents, fond of the English nation, and averse to the dark intrigues of the French and Russian factions. During her whole life-time, she had, in conjunction with her favourite Yusuf, contrived to direct her son, and manage all the affairs of the empire. Her maternal affection for Selim was so strong, that, when the French army treacherously seized upon Egypt, she kept the secret confined to her own bosom rather than permit its communication to distress the Sultan, to whom, being of a very nervous temperament, the smallest trifle was sufficient to cause agitation and alarm. In return, Selim bore his mother no common degree of filial affection, he felt her loss severely, and time alone enabled him to regain the usual serenity of his mind.[15]

## CHAPTER XVI.

*Fishery of the Pelamydes, on the Thracian Bosphorus. — Quotation from the Halieutics of Oppian.*

Some few mornings after my arrival at Terapia, we experienced two smart shocks of an earthquake, which however did no other damage than throwing down some tiles from the roofs of the houses. This concussion was succeeded by a strong hurricane from the north, and a fall of snow, which was melted in a few hours. The wind continuing for two or three days from the north, we were surprised at beholding a singular rippling appearance in the midst of the waters of the Bosphorus, forming a dark serpentine line about a mile and a half in length. Over and all around this rippling were assembled a prodigious concourse of aquatic fowls, swans, cormorants, pelicans, penguins, solan geese, ducks, quails, divers, &c. which shrieked in hoarse concert as they dived upon the myriads of pelamydes (for such they were), which floated down in mid-channel. While we were beholding this singular phænomenon from the windows of the palace, the boats from Constantinople and the adjoining villages began to arrive, and then commenced that ancient fishery which has been so much celebrated in the golden verses of Oppian.

> " The savage-minded *Tunny's* youthful broods
> Receive their oval birth in *Euxine* floods.

Where through its streights the dead *Meotic* frees
The sullen wave dismist to sprightlier seas,
The tunnies, conscious of approaching throes,
Haste to the weeds, and court the soft repose.
The parents, nature's oldest law transgress,
Devour the spawn, and praise the self-born mess.
Part in the sedge's blind protection lies
Swells into life, and future broods supplies.
When bursting from their eggs they first begin
To curl the floods, and stretch th' unpractised fin,
To foreign seas the wanton younglings roam
And travel infants from their native home.
A spacious bay recurves the Thracian coasts,
The *Black* its name, diffusive Neptune boasts
No deeper seas in all his fluid reign,
Eternal calm serenes the peaceful plain.
Below no ravenous monsters chase their prey,
The surface smiles all innocent and gay.
Delightsome caves indent the shores around
With humid slime and sea-green herbage crown'd,
With kindly warmth productive of the food
That suits the stomachs of the tender brood.
Hither the Tunny's infant shoals repair,
*Evade* the frosts and mock the wintry year.
*No fish more dreads the cold;* with piercing blight
The pungent particles annoy their sight.
Imbosom'd thus within the calm retreat
They wait the slow return of vernal heat.
Love and the spring arrive; the genial bloom
Inspires the wish, and fills the teeming womb.
Thence all returning to their native seas
In beds of ooze their ripened spawn release.
The *Thracians* launching on the gloomy bay,
Drag from their wintry beds the lurking prey:
A new machinery of death descends, &c.

* * * * * * *

But gentler arts ensnare the youthful train,
Entangled in the thready-bosomed seine,

When gloomy night obscures the frowning deep,
In oozy beds the scaly nations sleep;
*All but the tunny's brood:* with wakeful care,
Each sound they dread, and every motion fear;
Start from their caverns and assist the snare.
The silent fishers in the calm profound,
With circling nets, a spacious plot surround;
Whilst others in the 'midst, with flatted oars,
The wavy surface lash. —Old ocean roars,
Murm'ring with frothy rage, beneath the blow,
And trembles to remotest depths below:
The dreadful din alarms the tim'rous fry,
They fondly to the nets' protection fly.
Fools! from unbodied sounds to death to run,
And flying, but o'ertake the death they shun!
But when returning seines the shores ascend,
And from the struggling ropes the fishers bend,
Imprudent fears the trembling shock begets,
Closer they press, and hug the treacherous nets.
But let the swain invoke, with ardent prayer,
The Gods, that make the watery sports their care,
That nothing fright the once imprison'd prey,
That none escapes, and shows his mates the way;
If second fears the timorous captives chace,
With sudden flight they leave the net's embrace;
Dart o'er the line, enlarged seas regain,
And frustrate all the labours of the swain;
Unless some god a just resentment owes,
For slighted temples, or neglected vows,
Contented in the thready chains they'll lie,
Mount to the shore, nor once attempt to fly."

See JONES's Translation of OPPIAN's HALIEUTICS, (Oxford, 1722.) Book 4th.

The reader will, it is hoped, pardon the length of this extract, in consideration of the truth and beauty of the description, and the scarcity of the English translation. But to return.

This shoal proved only the advanced guard of the grand army of pelamydes, which were coming down from the *Palus Meotis*, terrified by the first approach of the bleak northern blasts and equinoctial gales.

Before mid-day, some hundred boats having arrived, the numbers of fish captured were prodigious. These boats were navigated by Turks, Albanians, and Greeks, habited in the diversified and richly coloured costume of their respective nations, throwing their seines, and pulling against the rapid current, bawling, shouting, and wrangling for the prize, which they were even forced to contest with the fowls of the air, who intrepidly descended to seize the fish when struggling amidst the meshes of their nets. They gave a life and animation to the picture, which, surrounded by the sublime scenery of the Bosphorus, constituted, as a whole, one of the most superb and impressive spectacles I had ever beheld. This occupation continued, without ceasing, day and night, till the fourth morning, when the last of the shoal passed Terapia.

Pelamys is the term given by the ancients to the young tunny, when under a year old. The tunny is the same with the Spanish mackerel, a large fish of the scomber kind, the scomber thynnus of Linnæus, the arcynus limosa, and pelamys of other writers. It has eight or nine fins in the hinder part of the back, which, as well as the abdominal fins, rise from a deep furrow. The tail is of a semilunar shape.

The tunny was a fish well known and highly prized by the ancients, having constituted from the earliest ages a great source of riches and commerce to the nations inhabiting the shores of the Mediterranean, and, in fact, being the principal food of the people of Bithynia, to whom it appears to have given an appel-

lation, as the nation that lived on tunny (*Bios*, vita: — *biithynni*). The periods of its arrival in the Mediterranean sea were observed, and stations for taking the fish were established on the capes and inlets most favourable to that occupation. They are still caught in large quantities on the coasts of Spain, France, and Sicily, and sometimes, but rarely, and in small numbers, they are found in the bays of the western coast of Scotland, whither they are attracted by the shoals of herrings which form their natural prey. When cut into pieces, the flesh of the tunny being red has the appearance of raw beef, but becomes paler on being boiled, and has then the resemblance, and somewhat the flavour of salmon. Sometimes they attain to a very great size, even seven or eight feet in length; and they have been found to weigh as much as 450 pounds avoirdupois. The body is thick and round, tapering gradually towards the tail. The skin of the back is smooth, thick, and black, verging gradually into a shining blue or greenish hue; the belly and part of the sides of a shining silvery white, melting into cerulean and pale purple, the scales and teeth very small, and the irides of the eyes of a pale green. The same description applies of course to the pelamydes, which, however, never exceed a few ounces in weight. Persius notices the tail of the tunny as forming the food of the wretched Hebrews at Rome. "*Cauda natat thynni, tumet alba fidelia vino*," but the belly of the fish salted was the delight of the Roman epicures, and is mentioned as such by Aulus Gellius.

> "*Ad cœnam adducam, et primum hic abdomina thunni*
> *Advenientibus priva dabo.*" AUL. GEL. lib. 10. c. 20.

Petrus Gyllius (de Bosph. Thracio) remarks upon this fishery, that if the Turks were not obliged to pay one half of

what they catched to the Grand Seignor, every market-place in Constantinople might be easily filled with the young tunnies; and that the Greeks had formerly a proverb "That no one in his senses would carry as a rarity owls to Athens, box trees to Cytorus, or fish to the Hellespont;" and adds, "that for the abundance of fish, Marseilles, Tarentum, and Venice have been renowned, but that the Bosphorus exceeds them all; for, being a sort of outlet between two seas, the fish are accustomed to migrate in autumn and return in spring, (conformably to the same fixed law of nature, by which cranes are accustomed twice a year to fly across both seas,) and in such multitudes that the first comer may catch as many as he will: neither is any particular skill requisite to succeed in this fishery, for women and children may sit at their windows, and bring up the pelamydes in baskets-full from the current, or with hooks even without any bait; so very torpid are the fish. And sufficient might be taken to supply all Greece, the abundance being such that with a single net you may catch many boat-loads." In returning in spring the tunnies carefully avoid the rapid currents, as they are closely followed by the xiphias or swordfish, which constantly pursue them in their passage to and from the Mediterranean.

The Cossacks of Citchou, a city of Circassia, carry on an extensive tunny fishery from the month of May till the latter end of October, when the Cuban river becomes covered with ice. The Phœnicians, no doubt, pursued the same fishery; the Punic coins of Cadiz are marked with the figures of tunny fish, the symbols of Isis and Hercules, the sun and moon; while the reverse represents the temple of Hercules; and the Greek coins of Istropolis display the same fish in the act of being devoured by a fishing bird.

## CHAPTER XVII.

*The Plague.*

DURING the long and frequent fasts of the Greek church, the salted *pelamydes*, or the roe of the tunny and sturgeon, called *caviare* and *pontargue*, form the principal food of the poorer classes: the rancid oil with which these abound, joined to large quantities of pumpkins, cucumbers, water-melons and grapes, constitute altogether so putrid and debilitating a diet, that the system becomes strongly disposed to receive any contagious *virus*, particularly that of the plague, which generally shows itself in Constantinople during the Greek Lent; while the rooted belief in predestination entertained by the Turks prevents them from using any, even the slightest precautions to arrest the progress of the malady. Hence those whom it has attacked are no sooner carried to the pest-hospital in Pera, than the Jew-cloaths-men who attend the doors, buy their garments, and hurry back across the harbour, to dispose of them in the bezensteins of Constantinople; and the luckless purchaser of these poisoned robes speedily falls a victim to his newly-acquired finery. In vain has the Porte at times punished with death these trafficking Hebrews; the spirit of gain is not less active and unrelenting in the capital of Turkey than in that of England. The French and English, and indeed most other Franks, soon take the alarm,

and shut themselves up in their own houses: but the Turks and *rayahs* meet the storm undaunted. Greeks, Armenians, and Jews, as being more filthy and intemperate in their diet, and from their commercial habits fully more exposed, incur as much or even more danger than the Mussulmans themselves. It is true that whenever the malady reaches a certain height, prayers are publicly offered up in the imperial mosques; but the bazars and streets continue quite as crowded as before. What can be done in a country so despotically governed? Should the fear of contagion induce the inhabitants to put an end to all commercial intercourse, or should the people shut themselves up with one accord in their own houses, famine would add its ravages to pestilence, and a public commotion would soon overturn the empire. The Turkish government, like all others in such a choice of difficulties, prefer the destruction of their subjects to their own overthrow. Barriers, quarantines, and lazarettoes, have no existence in Turkey, because they are incompatible with the rigorous habits of despotism; and would require large public granaries, a wise police, and an hundred collateral establishments, which are never likely to exist in a Mussulman country. The disease then generally breaks out in Constantinople in spring, and ceases in autumn, remains dormant during winter, and shows itself again about the same time in the beginning of the succeeding year. Dr. Murdoch Mackenzie, who passed upwards of thirty years in practice as a physician at Smyrna and Constantinople, and whose account of the plague is much the best which has yet appeared, states, that excepting four years, the plague was, during that period constantly present or threatening, although he never could detect any difference in these years, excepting, perhaps, that the winters set in more

severely or earlier, and that there was a heavier fall of snow. Its general time of commencing he found to be about the middle of March, and its cessation or interruption about the middle of September. Now as the fleets from Egypt commonly reach the port of Constantinople with a southerly wind between the latter end of March and the beginning of May, which is also the period of the Greek Lent, it is then that the plague breaks forth. In its progress, it has been remarked first to attack the Greeks and Armenians, then the Jews, and lastly the Turks. It has been also observed, that before the most severe pestilences there is frequently a murrain amongst the cattle. This especially happened in May, 1745, and in the beginning of June in the same year great swarms of butterflies arose from a prodigious host of caterpillars, which had preceded them. The same circumstance occurred in 1752 and 1758, and in all these years the plague was very violent, more particularly in August and September, 1758, when it proved fatal to several persons belonging to the English and French factories in Constantinople.

On the other hand, earthquakes and storms of thunder and lightning, severe falls of snow, and early winters, have the effect of checking and extinguishing the disease. Thus, in 1753, the plague broke out in Constantinople, on the 31st May, and continued throughout the winter, and the next year, till the month of September 1754. On the second day of that month, a terrible shock of an earthquake took place, which threw down part of the castle of the seven towers, a portion of the city walls, seven minarets of mosques, the prison of Galata, Caravanserais, &c. &c.; and killed from sixty to an hundred persons. This shock extended to Grand Cairo, where it killed 40,000 inhabi-

tants, and threw down two-thirds of the city. Four days after, namely, on the 6th September, a storm of thunder and lightning came on, which lasted for two hours, and, in violence, exceeded any thing of the kind that the oldest inhabitants could remember; the thunder and lightning continuing, without the intermission of even a few seconds, for an hour and a half. On the 17th September, only eleven days afterwards, the plague *entirely ceased*; and during the following year, hardly showed itself. But, on the 6th of March 1756, it again burst forth, and did not terminate before the 12th December. As to the mortality occasioned by the plague, it is always difficult to come to any very satisfactory conclusion, for the Turks keep neither records, nor any register resembling our bills of mortality. A certain gate of the city, leading to the principal cemetery, is watched; and whenever an hundred bodies are carried through it for interment, in one day, the plague is proclaimed, and prayers are offered up. Dr. Mackenzie has suggested a mode of calculation, founded on the daily consumption of flour, which, in Constantinople, being 20,000 killows, and each killow being consumed by fifty persons, gives pretty nearly the population, one million. Now, during the months of July, August, and September, of the year 1751, there was a falling off in the consumption, of three thousand killows, which, being multiplied by 50, gives a total of 150,000 persons, swept off by plague, during these three months; including, at the same time, a great many persons who were known to have abandoned the city, and fled to the interior, to avoid the pestilence. *

* De Tott was then fortifying the Dardanelles, and states the numbers destroyed at 150,000.

It is difficult, undoubtedly, to reconcile the diversity of opinions which have been advanced by ancient and modern writers, respecting the origin and cause of plague; but certain it is, that the plains of Shinaar, Egypt, and Syria, have been, from the earliest dawn of history, the centre and focus of pestilence. The writings of Moses establish the fact, as to Egypt, and profane history has transmitted to us numerous particulars, as to Syria and Greece. Of these, I have met with none more striking than that mentioned by Appian of Alexandria, respecting the propagation of the plague amongst the barbarians who sacked the temple of Delphos. This historian states, that the Scythian pirates, consisting of the Liburnians, Antarians, and those Celts called Cimbri, having invaded the Delphic territory, and encamped near the temple of Apollo, the incensed divinity sent such a tempest of thunder and lightning, followed by deluges of rain, that these barbarians decamped with the greatest expedition. He adds, that on their return, so great was the quantity of frogs, produced by moisture, that they rendered the rivers putrid;—that, *a vapour being exhaled from the earth*, a dreadful corruption and pestilence took place amongst the Illyrians, which principally affected the Antarii, until, becoming exiles from their native country, and carrying the plague with them, no people being willing to receive them from dread of the disease, they made a journey of three-and-twenty days, until they reached a marshy and uninhabited tract, where they settled themselves, near to the nation of the Bastarnæ. It is said, moreover, that Apollo shook with earthquakes the territory of the Celts, and swallowed up their cities; nor was there an end to their calamities, until they, in like manner, having left their homes, went amidst their accomplices in sacrilege, the Il-

lyrians, whom they conquered with facility, on finding them debilitated and worn out by the plague. Having caught it, *by their communication with them*, they took to flight, nor halted until they reached the Pyrenean mountains. *

This is a plain, true, and matter of fact statement, of what has happened, almost in our own times, to the Russian army on entering Moldavia. But the poets, who have embellished and disguised with a veil of fiction, every historical fact, have described Hercules perishing by the poisoned shirt of a centaur; and Niobe, turned into stone from grief, at beholding her family transfixed by the arrows of Apollo. Plutarch, in the life of Pericles, has commemorated an incident similar to the catastrophe of Niobe; and every day in Turkey, we might find a parallel to the poisoned garment of Nessus.[16] "The celebrated Pericles," says the historian, "was fated to behold the greater part of his children, relations, and friends, fall victims to the devouring pestilence; and even, at the height of his misfortunes, his firm soul remained tranquil and unmoved. He was neither seen to shed a tear, nor to follow the funeral procession of any of his kindred. But when he prepared to place the crown of flowers on the last of his children, snatched from him by an untimely death, he was no longer master of his grief, Nature gave way, and he shed a torrent of tears."

The treatment and cure of this dreadful malady, are perhaps as little understood in Turkey, even at the present time, as during the days of Pericles. Free perspiration, if it can be at all pro-

* This happened in the year 278, B. C. See Appian. Alex. de Bellis Illyr.

duced, seems to be the natural crisis of the disease, and to obtain this discharge, is the intention of nearly all the remedies hitherto recommended. Busbequius has celebrated the virtues of the herb scordium, or water germander, a decoction of which, taken warm, was successfully used by his friend and physician, William Quackelben. The compound called diascordium, preceded by a glass of brandy, is, according to Mackenzie, the only medicine given by the Catholic priests, who have charge of the pest-hospital at Pera, and is *sometimes* successful. The medical officers of the French army in Egypt, have praised the virtues of warm punch, given with the same intention. The British officers have celebrated purgatives; while Baldwin, and some others, have recommended oily frictions. Blood-letting, in the very early stage, is strongly advised by Mackenzie, and is equally deprecated by others. Some wonderful escapes and recoveries have been recorded by all. The real truth may be, that plague is nothing but bilious remittent fever, under its worst possible form, attended with petechiæ, blains, and swellings of the lymphatic glands, which sometimes suppurate, but oftener do not. If they suppurate, or the patient perspire freely, he recovers; but if not, the disease proves fatal. All those who have the plague, however, have not buboes, and these are generally believed to have remittent fever only. Hence the strangest contradictions and mistakes are to be found in all writers on this subject, and they have from time to time occasioned wrangling, scepticism, and false reasoning, without end; some asserting the non-contagion, and others the wide propagation of pestilential virus. In all other parts of the globe, the Levant alone excepted, the critical suppurations which accompany bilious

fevers, attack various glands of the body, in preference to those of the groin; but amongst the Orientals, as the custom of squatting, and the great indulgence of the sexual passions, create an increased morbid sensibility in the inguinal glands, the liver and the parotid glands are not so often affected as with Europeans. Thus, when the British army returned from Spain, after the retreat upon Corunna, they brought with them a bilious pestilential fever, of which vast numbers were the victims; although most probably the plague was never known by that name, because the parotid glands suppurated instead of those in the groin. Yet the disease was spread far and wide, throughout the military hospitals in England; nurses, medical attendants, and washerwomen, falling victims to it daily, exactly as in the plague in Turkey; but it was the fashion of the day, to call the malady a typhus fever, and being *only* a typhus, it did not create much alarm; it was, in the course of some months, subdued by proper remedies, and the conjoint influence of healthy food, and a temperate climate.

The necessary prevalence of pestilence in the Turkish capital has been assumed by some superficial reasoners as a just and plausible pretext for urging the other nations of Europe to declare war against the Turks, and drive them back to their deserts in Asia. If ever this city should fall into the hands of a Christian power, it will then be seen to a demonstration that the unhealthiness of its inhabitants is owing more to physical than to moral causes; for if I am not much mistaken it will ever continue one of the most unhealthy of European capitals. Whoever has visited it, and has contemplated the vast swampy tracts which extend around it in all directions, must immediately subscribe to this opinion. Dr. Clarke, although no physician, seized the truth at

once; for the situation of Constantinople, notwithstanding it is the most beautiful under heaven, is certainly the most unhealthy. At a moderate calculation I should estimate the marshy grounds lying immediately around its walls to be little short of twenty square miles. Let us trace on a map the low shores of the Propontis, furrowed by shallow muddy streams, obstructed at their mouths, and dilating into morasses. Contemplate the low grounds of Bithynia, the lake of Nicea, and the fertile swampy valleys at the foot of Olympus, together with the harbour itself, and the waters of Kiat Hane, and we shall be convinced that of all places in Europe Constantinople must suffer most from marsh effluvia. Consider next the fastings and religious observances of the Greeks, a system, perhaps, the most fatal to health that was ever imagined by a nation called civilised. Imagine a race of people oppressed and plundered, and having only 139 days in the year which are not absolutely *meagre*, while during the remainder their subsistence is putrid salt fish, and other unhealthy viands.[17] Look at the Armenians; their religious observances are scarcely less severe; and the filthy abominations of the Jews are too notorious to require any observation. Lastly the Turks themselves, the most rigid of predestinarians, bigoted to their religion, and quite ignorant of natural phenomena; is it then matter of astonishment that this uncivilised assemblage, fasting all day, gorging all night, wallowing in sensuality, or expiring from misery, clothed constantly in animal substances, generally in a decaying state, without changes of linen *, and hovering all winter over the effluvia of charcoal,

* The Turkish, Armenian, and Greek women, wear silken chemises, which are seldom washed.

should be the victims of pestilential poison. And if we contemplate for a moment the unenlightened state of physic throughout the Turkish empire, we shall rather wonder that any one afflicted with disease should arise from his bed of sickness, and shall be less surprised at the devastation occasioned by its mortality.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

*Death of Don Jozé Ocarris, the Spanish Ambassador. — Illness of Mr. Chenevix. — Saracenic Pharmacy and Hebrew Empirics. — Murder of Mr. Wood.*

One of the most tragical anecdotes which came to my knowledge during my residence in Turkey, connected with the state of physic in that country, was the catastrophe which occurred to the family of Don Jozé Ocarris, Ambassador Extraordinary from the Court of Madrid to the Sublime Porte. This nobleman, while travelling from Vienna to Bucharest on his progress towards Constantinople, attended by his lady and suite, happened accidentally to meet at one of the mining towns in Hungary with Mr. Richard Chenevix and Mr. Adlercrone, then on a scientific tour. As the parties had previously met at Vienna and Paris, their acquaintance was soon renewed, and on the invitation of Señor Ocarris, they agreed to accompany him to Constantinople. The party then consisted of about fourteen or fifteen individuals, including domestics. It was August, and the weather was more sultry than usual amidst the deep valleys of Transylvania. As the inns and post-houses were small and of the most wretched description, and the party was so numerous, it most frequently happened that on halting for the night they chose to sleep in their carriages out of doors, rather than encounter the noisome smells and swarms of insects which

infested the chambers of the inns. Owing to these circumstances the effects of marsh miasmata were speedily felt by many, and before they had reached Ruschuk, nearly the whole party were becoming feverish and indisposed. At that town, their first care was to enquire where they might purchase some cooling medicine, as the Ambassador had unluckily quitted Vienna without either medicine chest or medical attendant. Some of the servants, more alert than the rest, soon discovered the house of a Jewish vender of drugs, who sold them his whole stock of Glauber's salts, which was only a few ounces.

The Ambassador and Mr. Chenevix were therefore too late in their application for a supply, but the Jew having assured their messenger that he could furnish them with a box of excellent pills, which would equally answer the purpose, they accepted his proposal. The pills were accordingly prepared, and sent to the Ambassador's quarters. Of this fatal box, Don Jozé, Mr. Chenevix, and three servants partook, exceeding, unfortunately, the number prescribed by the Jew, which was only one for a dose. One swallowed two, another three, and some, improvidently, took even four. The effects were truly dreadful. The hypercatharsis produced was so great, that one of the servants died the next day under their operation. The Spanish Ambassador, a delicate man, survived only till he reached Varna, when he also fell a victim to their effects. Mr. Chenevix and one of the servants, reduced to the most deplorable state of weakness, were put aboard a small Greek vessel, accompanied by Signora Ocarris, with the dead body of Don Jozé, and the rest of this afflicted and unfortunate party, (some of whom were delirious and raving mad.) To add to their miseries, they encountered the gales of the equinox, in the Black Sea, when off the mouth of the Bos-

phorus, and were twice driven into Asia, where they buried two more of the domestics. The superstition of the Greek sailors was awakened by the presence of the Spanish Ambassador's corpse; they mutinied and refused to hand the sails, and after a series of unheard-of misfortunes, at length reached Pera. I was soon after requested to visit Mr. Chenevix, whom I found in the miserable inn at Pera, delirious and suffering under the cold paroxysm of a double tertian fever, complicated with dysentery. That night I passed by his bedside, and although his recovery was long doubtful, the vigour of his constitution finally prevailed, and after some days I had the pleasure of pronouncing him out of danger, but his final convalescence was very tardy. What might have been the actual composition of these pills, I know not, but Doctor Inchiostro, an Italian physician at Pera, suggested that they were probably the Pilulæ cochiæ of the Arabian Physician, Rhasis, composed of turbith [18], scammony, colocynth, and aloes. I have judged that it might be useful to detail thus minutely this melancholy occurrence, as a warning to my fellow-countrymen travelling in Turkey, to be cautious of trusting their lives in the hands of Hebrew venders of Saracenic pharmacy, as I have but too much reason to be well assured that this is not the only fatal occurrence which has happened from similar applications.

Various indeed are the dangers which beset a traveller in Turkey; his life is in jeopardy at every stage. The barbarous murder of Mr. Wood, on his journey between Constantinople and Ruschuk, occurred soon after the death of Señor Ocarris, and is remarkable on account of some striking circumstances connected with it. This gentleman, who had been confidentially employed by the English Ambassador, was the bearer of dis-

patches between Constantinople and Petersburg, Vienna and London. He quitted Pera in February 1806, and the mouths of the Danube being still obstructed with ice, it was deemed expedient, for the sake of greater expedition, that he should take the overland route across Mount Hœmus, through Bulgaria. Having hired post-horses, he set out, accompanied by a Turkish Janissary, a Greek lad of fourteen, his domestic, and a Frank of Pera, who was to return with the horses from the Danube. They had accomplished the second day's journey in safety, and were proceeding from Burgas towards Kirk-Iklissi, (the forty churches) when, towards mid-day, they halted at a *Khan* in a village, to refresh themselves and feed their animals. While there, a party of armed Turks entered the house, and having surveyed them very attentively for some time, sat down near the door. Mr. Wood and his attendants having finished their repast, mounted their horses and quitted the village, but had not proceeded far, before they perceived these armed Turks in full pursuit. The Janissary suspecting their sinister intentions, called out to Mr. Wood to make what speed he could and escape ; himself showing the example by digging his shovel stirrups into his horse's flanks, and setting out at full gallop. Unluckily, however, Mr. Wood was but an indifferent horseman, and besides other incumbrances, had attached a dog by a string to the cantle of his saddle. The animal becoming entangled between the horse's legs, he halted to cut the string, and by so doing gave the robbers time to come up with him. The Janissary and other attendants were then considerably in advance, but on turning round and observing Mr. Wood's critical situation, the faithful Turk wheeled round his horse and rejoined him, while the Frank guide galloped off. By this time the robbers, having seized

the reins of Mr. Wood's horse, compelled him and the Janissary to dismount, and forced them into a thicket about two gun-shots from the road side, where they commenced rifling Mr. Wood's person and packages. On ripping open the portmanteau containing his letters and official dispatches, the Grand Seignor's travelling *firhmaun* dropt out. Mr. Wood, being unfortunately entirely ignorant of the Turkish language, was unable to explain himself, and incautiously, and with some degree of warmth, disputed with the robbers the possession of his papers. One of the villains suddenly drew a loaded pistol from his girdle, and discharged the contents through Mr. Wood's head; the Janissary was instantly murdered in the same manner; and the Greek lad, horror-struck at this sanguinary scene, took advantage of the momentary confusion, and fled towards the mountains. But in scrambling over some broken ground, he fell amidst a volley of musket shots from the assassins, who believing that their fire had taken effect, never followed him. In fact, however, he was not wounded, but fainted from fear and lay in a ditch till nightfall, when he crept back to the town which they had quitted in the morning, and where he lay concealed for some days. Meantime the Frank guide returned to Pera, and communicated these disastrous tidings. Orders were immediately sent by the Reis Effendi to the Pasha at Burgas, to take instant measures against the murderers, and to recover, if possible, the dispatches and property taken from Mr. Wood. In a few days some half dozen heads were duly forwarded in a sack to the Porte, together with some very trifling articles of baggage, but none of the papers or dispatches were ever forth-coming; this, joined to some other circumstances of a suspicious nature, led to a belief, that the robbers had been hired to waylay Mr. Wood and possess

themselves of his papers, but that the murder was accidental, and was chiefly brought on by his own impetuosity of character. Be that as it may, the mystery, up to the hour of my quitting Constantinople, was never developed, and the members of the Russian mission continued to utter half sentences against those of the French, while these more openly accused Italinski, the Russian minister, of being stained with the blood of this unfortunate young man.

## CHAPTER XIX.

*A Picture of Constantinople. — Greek Hospodars. — Mustapha Bairactar. — Selim Effendi. — Count Froberg. — Prince Italinski. — Monsieur Ruffin. — Barataríats.*

It would be difficult for any imagination, even the most romantic or distempered, to associate in close array all the incongruous and discordant objects which may be contemplated, even within a few hours' perambulation, in and around the Turkish capital. The barbarous extremes of magnificence and wretchedness; of power and weakness; of turpitude and magnanimity; of profligacy and sanctity; of cruelty and humanity, are all to be seen jumbled together in the most sublime or offensive combinations. The majesty and magnificence of nature, crowned with all the grandeur of human art, contrasted with the atrocious effects of unrestrained sensuality, and brutalising inherent degeneracy, fill up the vacant spaces of this varied picture.

The howlings of ten thousand dogs re-echoing through the deserted streets all the live-long night, chace you betimes from your pillow: approaching your window you are greeted by the rays of the rising sun gilding the snowy summits of Mount Olympus, and the beautiful shores of the sea of Marmora, the point of Chalcedon, and the town of Scutari: midway your eye ranges with delight over the marble domes of St. Sophia, the gilded

pinnacles of the Seraglio glittering amidst groves of perpetual verdure, the long arcades of ancient aqueducts, and spiry minarets of a thousand mosques. While you contemplate this superb scenery, the thunders of artillery burst upon your ear, and, directing your eye to the quarter whence the sound proceeds, you may behold, proudly sailing around the point of the Seraglio, the splendid navy of the Ottomans, returning with the annual tributes of Egypt. The curling volumes of smoke ascending from the portholes play around the bellying sails, and hide at times, the ensigns of crimson silk, besprinkled with the silvery crescents of Mahomet! The hoarse guttural sounds of a Turk selling *kaimac* at your door, recall your attention towards the miserable lanes of Pera, wet, splashy, dark, and disgusting; the mouldering wooden tenements beetling over these alleys, are the abode of pestilence and misery. You may mount your horse and betake yourself to the fields, rich with the purple fragrance of heath and lavender, and swarming with myriads of honied insects: in the midst of your progress your horse recoils from his path, at the loathsome object occupying the centre of the highway; — an expiring horse, from which a horde of famished dogs are already tearing the reeking entrails! Would you behold his unfeeling master, look beneath that acacia, at the hoary Turk performing his pious ablutions at the sacred fountain. — If we retrace our steps, we are met by a party passing at a quick pace towards that cemetery* on the right: they are carrying on a bier the dead body of a Greek, the pallid beauty of whose countenance is contrasted with the freshness of the roses which compose the chaplet on his head. A few

* The field of the dead, near Pera.

hours only has he ceased to breathe: but see! the grave has already received his corse, and amidst the desolate palaces of the princes of the earth, he has entered an obscure and nameless tenant.

Having returned to the city, you are appalled by a crowd of revellers pressing around the doors of a wine-house; the sounds of minstrelsy and riot are within. You have scarcely passed when you behold two or three gazers around the door of a baker's shop, — the *Kaimakan* has been his rounds, the weights have been found deficient, and the unfortunate man, who swings in a halter at the door, has paid for his petty villany the forfeiture of his life. The populace around murmur at the price of bread, but the *muezzins* from the adjoining minarets are proclaiming the hour of prayer, and the followers of Mahomet are pouring in to count their beads and proclaim the efficacy of *faith*. In an opposite coffee-house a group of Turkish soldiers, drowsy with tobacco, are dreaming over the chequers of a chess-board, or listening to the licentious fairy tales of a dervish. The passing crowd seem to have no common sympathies, jostling each other in silence on the narrow foot-path; women veiled in long caftans, emirs with green turbans, janissaries, Bostandjis, Jews, and Armenians encounter Greeks, Albanians, Franks, and Tartars. — Fatigued with such pageantry, you observe the shades of evening descend, and again sigh for repose; but the *passawend* with their iron-bound staves striking the pavement, excite your attention to the cries of *yanga var* from the top of the adjoining tower, and you are told that the flames are in the next street. There you may behold the devouring element overwhelming in a common ruin the property of infidels and true believers, till the shouts of the

multitude announce the approach of the *Arch despot* *, and the power of a golden shower of sequins is exemplified in awakening the callous feelings of even a Turkish multitude, to the sufferings of their fellow-creatures, and of rendering them sensible to the common ties of humanity. — The fire is extinguished — and darkness of a deeper hue has succeeded to the glare of the flames; the retiring crowd, guided by their paper lanthorns, flit by thousands, like *ignes fatui*, amidst the cypresses of the *Champ des Morts;* and, like another Mirza, after your sublime vision, you are left, not, indeed, to contemplate the lowing of the oxen in the valley of Bagdad, but to encounter the gloom and cheerless solitude of your own apartment.

Such is the exterior of this wonderful microcosm, but what Asmodeus can unveil the inner recesses of their domestic circles, or describe the hallowed confines of those harems, to enter which is death? Since the days of the accomplished Lady Mary W. Montague, no foreigner who has hitherto penetrated those hallowed precincts, has given details of them at all comparable with those of that entertaining and authentic writer; and although the members of my profession are generally supposed to be best acquainted with such subjects, my time at Constantinople was much too short, and too painfully occupied by my attendance on a beautiful and accomplished sufferer, now no more, to admit of my attaining any information on that head at all interesting to the public.

In the families of a few Greek princes at Terapia, I found much to interest me in the affectionate harmony and simplicity of man-

* Or Arch slave — take which title you will; both are appropriate.

ners in their domestic circles; much to bewail in the ignorance in which their children were educated; and I sincerely lamented the greedy thirst of place which appeared totally to absorb all other ideas. "*Mon frere etoit le prince de la Valachie,*" said old Caugierli, more than once to me, "*mais on lui a coupé la tête.*" Yet this man with his three sons was assiduously engaged in intrigues to obtain the government of one of the two fatal principalities; and after having succeeded in his aim, his grey head has, like that of his brother, been affixed to the gate of the Seraglio. Indeed, the certainty of a Turkish courtier's disgrace can only be equalled by the astonishing rapidity of his rise, in a country where no honours are hereditary, where the lowest peasant is as noble as the Vizier Azem, where ignoble birth and vulgarity of manners are unknown even in appellation, and where the hewers of wood, burners of charcoal, and planters of cabbages, throw down their axes or spades, and ascend almost at once to the command of armies, or the direction of the resources of a kingdom of two-and-twenty millions of subjects. "What," says the Prince de Ligne, "would become of the nations of Europe, if a vender of soap were to be made prime minister, a gardener grand admiral, and a lacquey commandant of armies? Where else shall we find men fit, at the same time, to fight on foot, on horseback, or on shipboard — adroit at every thing they undertake, and individually always intrepid? Ranks being confounded, no person being classed, each has equal claims to every thing, and expects that place which fortune may destine for him." The history of Mustapha Bairactar is a striking exemplification of these assertions. His name was perpetually quoted at Constantinople, and I had the

satisfaction of meeting this noted and extraordinary character, in a village near Ruschuk. His whole life seems like a splendid dream, for he was first a pirate on the Danube in a small boat manned with nine desperadoes whose lives and fortunes he commanded. The courage and energy he displayed in this avocation, proved an introduction to the Grand Seignor's favour, who appointed him *Bairactar*, or standard bearer of Mahomet's green ensign, and finally Pacha of Ruschuk, with an income of about 12,000*l.* sterling per annum. The duties attached to his Pachalik, were to exterminate his old associates the pirates on the lower Danube, and to keep in check his neighbour the Pacha of Widdin, the far-famed Paswin Oglou. For this purpose he had disciplined and kept in pay a corps of 40,000 Janissaries, chiefly Albanians. Gratefully attached to Selim, he, on the deposition of that ill-fated Prince, marched to Constantinople to replace him on the throne. The cruel murder of Selim frustrated his generous intentions, but he had the satisfaction of deposing Mustapha the Fourth, and of elevating to the throne Mahmoud the Second, and of being himself appointed Prime Vizier. He died the death of a hero, by blowing himself up in a powder magazine, after having been betrayed at the disastrous feast of reconciliation with the Janissaries at Kiat Hane, on the 12th November 1808. But to return. To supply the defects of so extraordinary a system, it has been the constant policy of the Turks to encourage scientific Christians to embrace their religion and enter their service. Renegadoes of this kind were formerly much more numerous than in later times. But their places have been supplied by a class of adventurers chiefly French, like the Baron de Tott, who, without undergoing circumcision, or abjuring their religion, have rebuilt their fortresses and organised their dock-

yards. The only renegado who was at Constantinople in 1805, was an Englishman named Baillie, whose Moslem title was Selim Effendi. This gentleman was, I believe, a native of Reading in Berkshire, and had been in the service of the East India Company. During the embassy of Sir Robert Ainslie, Baillie and another gentleman, on their return overland from India, arrived at Pera and took up their residence at the inn. It was soon afterwards made known by their landlord to the Ambassador, that being in very distressed circumstances, they had entered into a negotiation with the Porte, to embrace Mahometanism, and enter the Turkish service. Sir Robert Ainslie had no sooner satisfied himself of the truth of this statement, than he sent for them, and very humanely extended to them the pecuniary assistance they needed, together with many hospitable attentions, warning them, at the same time, against the fatal consequences that might attend such precipitancy. They promised to renounce their intentions, and in fact soon after embarked for England. But, within twelve months, Baillie returned to Smyrna, and having embraced Mahometanism in due form, assumed the name of Selim. Repenting soon after the step he had taken, he returned to England, but his friends now refused to acknowledge him, and finding himself an outcast in society, he returned once more to Turkey. Selim behaved kindly to him, created him Effendi and afterwards an Emmera-Hor or Equerry, and employed him as a civil engineer in the construction of paper mills and barracks. He then presented him with a young Turkish wife; but the poor man was miserable, and his unhappiness was increased by the neglect he experienced after the death of the Sultan. In fine, being overtaken by bad health, and narrowly watched by his Turkish attendants, during

the severe fasts of the Ramazan, his indisposition took a fatal turn, and he died a martyr to his new faith, and the reproaches, probably, of his own conscience; leaving his name and memory as a fatal monument and warning to his countrymen to avoid such a career. The fate of another adventurer, who was very intimate with Baillie at that time, is also remarkable. This accomplished man, whose real name I have since learned was Montjoye, passed himself upon the British government as the German Count Froberg, and under that title had the address to procure himself the appointment of Colonel to a regiment, which he was to raise in the Albanian and Christian provinces of Turkey. For this purpose he had employed crimps at Venice, Trieste, Galatz, and various places near the Turkish frontiers, while he himself resided at Constantinople and directed their manœuvres. The most unprincipled deceit and falsehood were employed to obtain recruits, many of whom were sent to him at Constantinople, then transferred to the Prince's Islands, and from time to time forwarded to their head-quarters at Malta. Finding themselves deceived, the regiment mutinied, murdered some of their officers, and blew up one of the Maltese forts. — A court martial was assembled afterwards at Sicily, by Sir John Moore, to investigate the grievances complained of by the survivors: when it appeared in evidence that most of the privates were young men of good families in their own country, who had been enticed to enter as ensigns and captains, and on arriving at Malta had been forced to do duty as privates. Sir John Moore disbanded the regiment, and sent back the men to their own country. Count Froberg was then at the Russian head-quarters, and finding his conduct detected, and being

indebted 30,000*l.* to government, he deserted to the French, but being afterwards surrounded in a village by a troop of Cossacks, he placed his back to a wall, and, sword-in-hand, sold his life as dearly as he could, being literally cut to pieces. This singular man had visited every country in Europe, from Gibraltar to the banks of the frozen ocean, whither he had accompanied the present Duke of Orleans, and had traversed all North America. He had an extraordinary facility in acquiring languages, speaking with the utmost fluency Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, English, German, French, Latin, and Sclavonian. His amiable manners, and his talents for conversation, his perfect good breeding and delicacy of *tact*, rendered him a welcome guest at all the diplomatic tables of Pera: it was not without much surprise, mingled with deep regret, that his acquaintances were apprised of the facts which occasioned so dreadful a termination of his career.

Besides Count Froberg, Pera then contained two other celebrated linguists, the Russian ambassador Italinski, and the French minister Ruffin.

The former had been educated as a physician, at the university of Edinburgh, and had returned to his native country with the intention of exercising his profession at Petersburgh, but having been attacked with a spitting of blood, he found himself incapacitated from following the laborious and ungrateful trade of physic. He was then appointed Secretary to the Russian Legation at Naples, and after many years of faithful service, ascended to the highest rank which it had to confer. From Naples he was transferred to Constantinople, where his knowledge of Oriental literature, his cool, crafty, and dispassionate mind, and his per-

petual command of temper, gave him great advantages over his rival diplomatists, whose foibles and irritability of temper constantly offered him advantages, of which he seldom failed to avail himself. In him it was difficult to say, which was most to be admired, the powers of a bodily frame that had withstood a constant hæmorrhage from the lungs for forty years, or the vigour of those mental powers that in such a dilapidated tenement had mastered the difficulties of twelve languages.*

As to Ruffin, he was a character of another stamp, bold, imperious, overbearing; with a spirit unbroken by the miseries of three long periods of confinement within the Seven Towers, disdaining the cold formalities of Turkish diplomacy, or the softening intervention of a dragoman's courtly speeches, he was in the habit of daily bearding the ministers of the Turkish Divan, and of making them tremble at the redoubted name of the Emperor and King.

To further his intrigues he employed all available means; and while the British Minister was refusing to grant the usual patents of Baratariats, the subtle Frenchman employed them to extend the influence of his nation throughout the wide extent of Turkey.

These Baratariats are among the most extraordinary wheels in the machine of Turkish diplomacy. Ever since the European powers have sent envoys to the Turkish court they have had permission to grant patents of protection to a certain number of Rayahs or Christian subjects of the Porte. Each nation possessed this privilege, in a degree proportioned to her relative influ-

* The peculiar circumstances to which I apprehend he owed his life, were great temperance, and a pulse which never exceeded forty pulsations in a minute!

ence at Constantinople; thus, France and England being the most powerful maritime and commercial states, had the privilege of creating forty or more Barataries; the smaller powers were allowed an inferior number, according to their several degrees of political importance. These protections being most advantageous to rich Armenians, Jews, and Greeks, were always eagerly coveted by the native merchants, bankers, and others, who wished to secure their lives and property from the oppressive gripe of Turkish laws. Great prices were of course paid for them, and the emoluments thence accruing, were considered as fees of office, belonging to the Ambassador of the day. But as the commercial rayahs in the Levant are generally the most faithless, intriguing, and unprincipled of men, instead of using their protections in self-defence, they oftener availed themselves of their immunities to screen their own villainies. Thus the time and patience of the Ambassador was constantly exhausted in deciding on their petty squabbles and fraudulent transactions. The barataries, however, knowing the Minister had been individually paid for his protection, presumed on commanding his favour in all cases and upon all occasions. No man, therefore, with nice feelings of honour, could plead for the continuance of such a system; but the French, taking advantage of this plan, had dispersed barataries as spies and hirelings in every corner of Turkey; and if they wished a dispatch to be sent to Poonah or Seringapatam, they had only to employ a Jewish baratary, who, under the pretext of some commercial business, concealed the dispatches in his bosom, and set out to Bagdad, where he handed them over to another Jew, who carried them to a third, by whom they were sent to Bussorah, whence the French Consul forwarded them on

to Poonah, or Seringapatam; the first mentioned Jew returned quietly to Pera, and no persons but the French Minister and himself were acquainted with the transaction. On the contrary, if the British Ambassador had occasion to send off a dispatch, half a dozen dragomans knew of the firmaun being made out, and every minister in Pera could calculate the stages and time required for the journey, so that the interception and robbery of the courier was a matter of little difficulty. The political wisdom, therefore, which dispensed with British barataries, may be questioned, however dignified or honourable were the feelings which suggested it, unless, indeed, all the other powers had followed the same course, and had concurred in discountenancing the usage.

## CHAPTER XX.

*Turkish Navy. — Views of the Russian Cabinet. — State of the defences of the Dardanelles and Bosphorus. — Ancient Walls of Constantinople.*

Ever since the memorable defeat of the Turkish fleet, at Tehesme, (7 July, 1770,) the Porte, by the aid of French engineers and ship builders, have been attempting to improve their marine establishments; but such is the wretched nature of their government, that there seem very slight grounds for believing that they will ever ultimately succeed. Amongst the captains of *Caravels* composing the Turkish navy, there is scarcely an individual who has any knowledge of navigation, far less of naval tactics; for as it is only by means of bribery that they can ever obtain the command of a ship, the man who bids highest, whatever may be his ignorance, obtains the post. Every means is then employed by the successful candidate to reimburse himself with the sum expended in bribery, and the most common is that of putting ashore one half of the crew whenever the ship loses sight of the towers of the Seraglio. The captain then appropriates to himself the amount of the provisions and pay, which would have accrued during the cruise to the dismissed part of the crew. But this step, joined to their inexperience and want of skill, would, in bad weather, expose them to almost infallible

shipwreck. To avoid such calamity, they run their vessel into the nearest port, where they can remain for a month or more, until a wind right-astern shall spring up, which will carry them to their final destination, without the necessity of manœuvring or tacking. Their Greek pilots have no knowledge beyond that obtained by sailing within sight of the shore; and whenever they lose sight of land, the compass becomes entirely useless to them. Hence whenever a Caravel is sent to Egypt or Syria, the captain most commonly runs into Smyrna or Rhodes in search of some Frank vessel going the same voyage, that he may follow her track. On board their ships there is neither order nor discipline: all ranks are confounded, the provisions are unequally distributed, every individual cooks and messes separately, eating when and whatever he chooses, so that the commander can never have any knowledge of the amount of his stock of provisions, or calculate upon the time it will hold out. As to their guns, they are of every size and calibre; balls of six pounds weight are frequently placed by the side of forty-eight pounders; and as the crew are seldom if ever practised in firing, the confusion that takes place during an action may be more easily conceived than described. Such was the state of the Ottoman navy before the late Sultan Selim succeeded to the throne. Convinced as he very soon became that reform or ruin was inevitable in the then existing situation of Turkey with relation to Russia, every measure for re-modelling the naval department was immediately adopted, with the advice and assistance of the French ambassador, who obtained from Toulon two French engineers, Messrs. Rhodes and Benoit, to establish a school for naval cadets, at Tershanè. Instructions in ship-building and navigation were given to these cadets; and so great

was the activity infused by them into the dock-yard, that a line-of-battle ship of three decks and 120 guns, a frigate, a corvette, and a brig, all copper-sheathed, were launched in one day during the year 1797; and many others followed in the succeeding years. Of these, however, Sir Sidney Smith, during the passage of the Dardanelles, destroyed one 64, together with four frigates, and several corvettes; and the Turkish admiral, Seid Aly, in an action with the Russians, off Tenedos, the same year, lost seven ships of the line; so that at this time probably the Turkish navy, as well as the army, may be considered nearly at as low an ebb as before Selim's accession to the throne. The present Grand Seignor has five thousand troops trained and disciplined according to European tactics, and about 400,000 Janissaries, an armed rabble. In considering dispassionately the actual deficiency of moral energy in the Ottoman Empire, one cannot but be astonished how such an unwieldy mass has held together after the frequent attacks which the Russians have lately made upon it. The wonder, however, will diminish when we consider that the Russians have been wasting their efforts on the extremities of the giant, when they might have aimed their blows at his heart; for, if instead of exhausting their armies on the swampy banks of the Danube, or battering the old ramparts of Ruschuk and Schumla to reach the intricate defiles of the Balcan, they had only seized on the promontory of Eneada, and there formed an intrenched camp, they would have taken all these defences in reverse, and might have marched upon the capital itself, after one general engagement.

It is more than probable, that by these tactics, they would have speedily succeeded in driving the Turks across the Bosphorus of Thrace. The fate of the unfortunate Selim, the destruction

of all his plans, and the overthrow of the Nizami-Ghedid, must have convinced England and France, the *natural* allies of Turkey, that without more effectual assistance than has yet been afforded her, all the efforts which her ministry have yet made to place their navy, army, and finances on a respectable footing, will be unavailing. The grand obstacle towards all amelioration in Turkey, is "*the spirit of rapine*," which, like an inveterate dry-rot, has diffused itself through every crevice and cranny of the whole political edifice. The love of gold bartered away to the armies of France those posts and fortresses so perpetually yielded up to them during the war in Austria, until, by the surrender of Ulm, they were enabled to gain the field of Austerlitz. The love of gold has placed the provinces of Wallachia and Moldavia within the gripe of Russia, and if not checked, will at length open the free passage of the Bosphorus to her fleets, demolish the batteries of De Tott, and finally plant the Black Eagle on the minarets of the mosque of Eyoub. The perseverance and constancy with which the court of Petersburg have pursued their favourite plans of aggrandizement towards Turkey, are worthy of admiration. The luckless defeat of Peter the Great, on the banks of the Pruth, undid all the efforts of his reign; but the armies of Catherine, having achieved the conquest of the Crimea, opened at once the Black Sea to the fleets of Russia; and the manœuvres of diplomacy, having ably seconded the invading armies of Alexander, in advancing towards the Danube, on one side, and the valleys of Teflis on the other, have placed the Porte at this moment, between the vortices of Scylla and Charybdis. A few short years must now determine her fate, and upon the ruins of her empire, may be then established the greatest power which has appeared in Europe, since the downfal of the

throne of Constantine. But England and France have it yet in their power to impede this appalling catastrophe. During the residence at Pera, of that able French diplomatist, the Count de Choiseul Gouffier, three French engineers, Messieurs Dumas, De la Fitte Clare, and Bonera, made a military reconnoisance of all the assailable points in the neighbourhood of the capital, and recommended a plan of fortifying the Bosphorus, which would have rendered the passage of it almost a moral impossibility to a Russian fleet. Their memoir, a MS. copy of which is now before me, bears date the 22d April, 1784, but up to March 1806, not a single step had been taken to carry this plan into effect. Happily for Turkey, instead of attempting the passage of the Bosphorus, the Russian armies advanced into Bulgaria, and were baffled in their attempts to cross the Balcan, although the passage of our own fleet, under Admiral Duckworth, through the Dardanelles, might have proved the facility of forcing the corresponding passage of the Bosphorus; most fortunately, however, our example was lost to them; and the Turkish emperor, it may be presumed, now holds his capital in consequence of this very oversight. The difficulties, however, which the British fleet surmounted, on that memorable occasion, were sufficient to have discouraged any hearts less undaunted than those of British seamen, and have never yet been fully made known. To judge of them, it will be sufficient to consider the amazing strength of the defences of the Dardanelles. On that narrow channel, there are two fortified positions, the first at the entrance, between Cape Janissary and Koum Kale; and the second, at what may be properly termed the Dardanelles, twelve miles higher up, at the narrowest part of the straits of Sestos and Abydos. The former are called the New Castles, the latter having been built

by Mahomet the Fourth, in 1659, are called the Old Castles. There is also a fifth castle or fort, on the European side, between that of the entrance and the Dardanelles, which is that built by De Tott.

The two first or New Castles, at the mouth of the straits had so little effect on the British fleet, that Sir J. Duckworth, in his passage upwards, did not think it necessary even to return their fire.

The Old Castles are constructed at the narrowest part of the passage, where the width is only about 1040 French toises, and the currents are extremely rapid. The castles consist of a strong battery, level with the water's edge, flanked by round towers, and crowned by a strong keep in the centre. That on the European side stands on the declivity of a mountain; the Asiatic castle is placed on a sand-bank, at the mouth of a small marshy river. The great battery of the European castle has three faces, and contains the following cannon.

Eighteen brass guns, (with cylindrical chambers,) ten feet long and 22 inches calibre, for discharging stone balls of twenty-two inches diameter, with a range of 1200 yards. One similar gun, twenty feet long, twenty inches calibre; another, called the Buynk, or Giant, twenty-eight inches calibre. These guns are laid upon stone beds, under stone archways; but in 1784 the French engineers found six of them totally unfit for use. Besides these, there are eleven brass guns, twenty-four pounders, and eight guns, eight and four pounders, mounted on ship carriages. These guns are distributed on the whole three faces of the battery; but the twenty-four pounders, placed in front of the Cyclopean guns, are not under archways, and are generally used in saluting. The opposite castle contains (or did contain) fifty-

three pieces of cannon, thirty-four of gigantic dimensions, the others twenty-four and eighteen pounders; and seven twelve-inch mortars. So that the British fleet had to run the gauntlet of not fewer than 100 pieces of cannon, in a narrow channel, against a rapid current; then to oppose the Turkish fleet, strongly moored, backed by a battery of thirty guns, on the point called "The Barbers." How the fleet escaped total destruction would seem almost miraculous, were it not for the unmanageable nature of the stone guns, which being placed on beds, cannot be fired above once during the transit of a fleet. The discharging of such guns must be a duty both of great difficulty and danger. De Tott informs us that one of the bullets, weighing 1100 pounds, required 330 pounds of powder to send it across the Hellespont, and, but for strong flanking buttresses to the walls, and a ramp of fascines behind the breech of the guns, each discharge would shake down the loose masonry of the walls. Even as it is, the concussion is so great as nearly to kill the Turkish artillery-men, forcing the blood from their nose and ears, and almost suffocating them with the smoke of their own powder. In aid of the like tremendous batteries on the Bosphorus, the French engineers proposed batteries *en barbette* along the heights at certain distances, and floating batteries moored on the water.

The ancient land defences of the city are in a complete state of decay, and are only to be regarded as the most magnificent piles of mural ruins to be seen in Europe. Of all the ancient structures at Constantinople, these are certainly the most imposing and sublime. Across the neck of the Isthmus, from the sea of Marmora, to the top of the harbour, for an extent of five miles and a half, runs a triple wall, flanked alternately at intervals of 150 yards by square and round towers. The second wall is dis-

tant from the first about thirty feet, and is about twenty feet high, or ten feet lower than the inner wall, which is thirty feet in height. The towers in the second wall, placed midway between the towers of the first, are chiefly in ruins, and project a little from the wall. The third line of wall is only twelve or fifteen feet high; it lines the inner side of the ditch, and is distant about eighteen feet from the second; the ditch itself is about thirty feet wide, and is faced externally by a low wall or counterscarp, in some places of fifteen, in others only four or six feet deep. Traversing this ditch at intervals of 150 yards, are walls about six feet high supported by buttresses, and having small arches beneath, through which creeps a stream of water: it formerly filled the ditch, being supplied from large cisterns. The masonry of these walls is massive and rich, composed of alternate layers of brick and stone, such as are found in Roman buildings. All these walls, as well as the counterscarp, have been shaken by earthquakes, and exhibit terrific gaps, covered with ivy, or crowned with trees, planted by the fowls of the air, or by the agency of the elements, their roots creeping down in snaky folds over the surface in search of moisture. Here and there disjointed fragments of rock and ruins have filled the ditch, and the industry of man, taking advantage of the accident, has converted them into gardens: but the country around is rocky and sterile, covered with extensive cemeteries, and shaded by gloomy cypresses. When wandering beneath these immense towers, the admiring beholder can observe nothing to connect his ideas with the present race of mankind. The howlings of jackals and wolves from the tombs, and the screams of owls and vultures from the turrets of the abandoned walls, are the

only sounds of animation which meet his ear. Like the Pyramids of Cheops and Saccaroth in Egypt, or the ruins of Stonehenge in our own island, they exist the awful monuments of a race whose memory our imagination loves to dwell upon, but who have long since and for ever been swept from the face of the earth.'

## CHAPTER XXI.

*The Beiram. — Illumination of the Mosques. — Popular remedy for Consumption. — Mosque of the reigning Sultan at Scutari. — Turkish Chart of the Black Sea. — Peramidias. —Invasions of the Don Cossacks.— Navigation and Commerce of the Black Sea. — Conjectures as to the Etymology of the Bos-poros and Hellespont. — Bosporean Kiosks and Villas. — Beautiful Cameo and sculptured Horn of Rhinoceros. — Anecdotes of Sorcery. — The Salii of the Romans, and Seicks of the Turks.*

At no time is the spectacle of Constantinople more striking to a stranger, than during the nights of the Turkish festival called the *Beiram*, or Easter of the Mahometans.

No sooner have the inhabitants of the village of Tapu Chandyi, in Asia, observed the rising of the moon, from behind the summit of Mount Olympus, which terminates the *Ramazan*, than the intelligence is conveyed by the firing of guns and the ascension of rockets. Millions of lamps, covering in long festoons, the cupolas and minarets of the mosques, flash at once, as if by magic, into streams of light, and illuminate, like fiery meteors, the vast extent of the city. Some of the Cyclopean artillery, before mentioned, lying on the shore of the point, near the seraglio, are then fired, to announce, that the irksome period of fasting has expired, and that all the race of true believers may testify their joy and orthodoxy, by drinking and feasting day and night, for three days. The dan-

gers attending such a transition from spare to full diet are unheeded; apoplexy and sudden death, for a time, fill the cemeteries, not less certainly than the plague. The same result attends, in Catholic countries, the conclusion of Lent; and, as the Lisbon physicians can well attest, and indeed the frequent funerals, the "*Subitæ mortes intestaque senectus*," which happen among "*the porcine brethren*" of the numerous convents, I can vouch for, from my own observation. Like that of the Catholics too, the religion of the followers of Mahomet, consists more in the external observance of forms, than in the practice of moral duties; and indeed, so unjustly and ungratefully had an Italian physician found his patients behave towards him, at these times, that he told me, he made a rule of never attending the hasty summons of a rich gormandizing Turk, unless the messenger brought at the same time, the usual equivalent of golden sequins. Still Turkey is a country in which instances of longevity are common. The use of the vapour bath, if not too frequently repeated, repels the approaches of old age; abstinence from wine and spirits preserves the vigour and tone of the stomach, and gout, rheumatism, cutaneous diseases, and most other chronical complaints, are comparatively very rare. Consumptions are not unfrequent, and generally they are as fatal as elsewhere; although the Turks have a popular remedy, which, in some instances, I have observed to be beneficial, namely, a few grains of pitch, made into pills, and administered several times a day. A similar mode of cure has, I understand, been long employed by the Scottish peasantry. The decoction of the sprouts of the young pine has been strongly recommended by the late Dr. Porterfield, of Eden, who is said to have been very successful in the exhibition of this simple medicine. Oriental nations

Greek Barber.

Turkish Boatman.

have at all times put great faith in the juices of terebinthinate and balsamic shrubs; the balsam of Mecca or Gilead is still considered by the Turks as a sort of panacea in stomachic and chronic visceral affections. The difficulty of obtaining it pure and unadulterated, and its high price, are perhaps the real reasons why, like other vaunted remedies, it still maintains so high a reputation. On the warm baths, mosques and other public buildings, as they have been already so ably described, I shall not enter into detail. I was much disappointed both in the exterior and interior of the mosque of St. Sophia, and thought many of the other royal mosques more worthy of admiration, particularly those of the Sultans Soliman and Ahmet. At Scutari, we visited a small mosque which had been recently erected by the reigning monarch, the unfortunate Selim: it is built of grey marble, and the interior being entirely covered with finely polished slabs of that material, and adorned simply with tablets bearing golden inscriptions from the Koran, struck me as very beautiful. At the printing-press of Scutari we saw some of the first efforts of the Turks in chart-engravings, particularly one of the Black Sea, then just finished, the most accurate probably yet produced. On that occasion, we dined, as I well remember, at a Turkish coffee-house; our dinner consisted of kiabob or roasted mutton, bread, sherbet, and grapes, for which we were charged four-pence a piece, including a couple of aspers to the waiter! The same dinner at a London tavern would have been certainly fifteen times the amount! In all excursions around this city, the stranger can avail himself of the beautiful pyramidias or wherries which, to the number of 6000, cover the harbour of the Bosphorus, and ply for fares like the gondolas of Venice. These boats which, in form and

lightness resemble Indian canoes, being pointed at both extremities, are beautifully carved, and richly gilt: the keels are sharp, and they are so narrow in their beams, that you are obliged to recline in the "stern sheets" to prevent their upsetting. The handles of the oars are shaped like skittles, and heavy enough to balance the other extremities: they play upon a single thole with a grummet, and the boatmen use them so dexterously that I have frequently been rowed from Pera to Terapia, a distance of 10 miles, against the current, within the hour. The sailing boats called *Kerlanguishes* or swallows, flit along the surface of the water almost with the rapidity of the birds whose name they bear. It was in such boats that formerly the Cossacks of the Don and Dnieper used to cross the Black Sea, plundering the villages on the banks of the Bosphorus, and insulting even the capital. One instance of this kind occurred in 1623, during the reign of Murad the Fourth, when these pirates arrived in a little fleet of one hundred and fifty boats; and not meeting any effectual resistance, continued their depredations for several days; and it was to prevent a repetition of such aggressions, that the Grand Seignor first ordered two castles to be constructed at the mouth of the Black Sea, against which the Ambassador of Poland protested as an act contrary to the capitulations of peace then concluded. (See *Rycaut's History of the Turks.*) At that time England possessed the liberty of navigating the Euxine, in virtue of a treaty made during the reign of James the First; but this concession was afterwards cancelled, and it was not until the year 1799 that Great Britain regained her privilege, twenty-five years after the treaty of Kainargih, which had thrown open the Bosphorus to the merchant-ships of Russia and Austria. This sea had been most despotically closed upon all the civi-

lised nations of Europe, for the long period of three hundred years; namely, from the time when the Turks wrested Kaffa from the Genoese, in 1476. The circumstance is the more extraordinary, when we reflect that this sea had been in early ages the scene of the most active commerce to the Egyptians, Phœnicians, and Milesians, and that the traffic and fisheries pursued on its shores had been sources of immense wealth to all these maritime people. The value indeed of this trade has been amply proved since the establishment of the Russian port of Odessa; for, in 1802 their coasting trade alone gave employment to 36 square rigged vessels and 266 small craft, including kaiques, voliks, &c., while in 1805 the Russian exports from the port of Odessa alone, amounted to seven millions four hundred thousand roubles; and the vessels which cleared out from the same port in 1803, the year succeeding the peace of Amiens, amounted to no fewer than eight hundred and fifteen sail.

Of no part of Europe has the early history been involved in greater obscurity than that of Constantinople and the Bosphorus of Thrace. The honour of founding Byzantium has been by different early writers attributed to Milesians, or Athenians, or Lacedemonians; and coins, medals, and inscriptions have been produced and quoted to prove the existence of a fabulous hero called Byzas of Megara, who first founded a colony of Greeks on "the golden horn."

The poets, the most early but unfortunately the least authentic of the Pagan historians, have contributed to involve us in still greater mistakes. Jupiter, according to their accounts, crossed the straits in the form of a white bull, and carried off the nymph Europa, who was plaiting garlands of flowers on the shores.[20]

These straits, therefore, were called *Bos-poros*, or the Passage of the Bull; and the Hellespont, or Sea of the nymph Helle*, obtained that denomination from a similar fable.[21] The truth, however, I believe to have been, that one of these straits was entitled the Passage of the Persians, and the other the Sea or Passage of the Babylonians. From the researches of Mr. Rich, and other late travellers, we have ascertained that the tower of Babel was constructed at a place called Hella; after the grand dispersion, therefore, of mankind, the sea of Marmora and its straits were called Hellespont, or the Sea of Hella. But when Darius Hystaspes, and other kings of Persia, entered Europe at the head of armies composed of the inhabitants of Mount Taurus, they crossed the Bosphorus, and then first brought into Europe those huge unknown animals since called elephants, but for which the Greeks and Thracians, having then no other appellation, called them white bulls, (*bos leucos*,) and the Romans on seeing them for the first time in Italy, in the army of Pyrrhus, gave them the same title. Thus Ennius, the most anicent of the Roman poets, says, "*Atque locusta* bovem lucum *pariet prius*;" and Lucretius, "*Inde* boves lucos *turrito corpore tetros*." The fable, therefore, of Jupiter and Europa may be thus solved: The Kings of Persia entering Europe with white bulls, or elephants, carried off into captivity the virgins of Europe; thence the passage was called Bos-poros, the Passage of the Elephants. Hella was the site of ancient Babylon, but *hela* was death, or a valley; thus the word redoubled was "the valley of death," so often recurring in sacred writings. The Persians were overwhelmed in recrossing the Hellespont; the sea itself, therefore,

* The whole plain of Shinaar was called Hella.

was the fatal sea, the deadly passage, the passage of death, or sea of Hella.

The banks of this "enchanted current" are still, as in the days of Europa, covered with flowers, and are the resort of beautiful nymphs; for the villas of all the richest inhabitants of Constantinople extend for miles along the water's edge, affording the most delicious retreats from the tainted atmosphere of those bazars and bezesteins in which the jewellers and merchants carry on their daily traffic. In this particular the capital of Constantine had the greatest advantage over that of Romulus, where, in order to escape from the morbid miasmata of the Pontine Marshes, the Roman senators were obliged to undertake a tedious and dangerous journey to reach the shores of Baiæ; while in the eastern metropolis, after gliding for a few minutes along the azure current, the luxurious Byzantine could attain his sequestered villa, remote from the crowded forum of the city, and the splendid miseries of the palace. Nor do the sums daily lavished on the erection of these marine pavillions fall far short of those expended of old by the Romans on their villas of Naples and Portici. In many situations near Terapia I have observed scores of labourers excavating the perpendicular rocks to procure areas and terraces for houses and gardens. The adamantine trap or basalt * was next to be covered with vegetable mould brought from a distance to serve as soil for a multitude of flowers and shrubs. Workmen of every nation and religion were employed of necessity in this new creation; and as the sabbath and holidays of all these workmen fell on different days of the week, the build-

* De Tott found porphyry in digging the foundations of his Asiatic castle. Both basalt and porphyry are volcanic products.

ing encountered all the difficulties experienced at the Tower of Babel. The Turkish carpenters were absent on Fridays, the Jewish labourers on Saturdays, and the Armenian masons on Sundays. The Greek plasterer had a holiday on Monday, and the Catholic whitewasher on Tuesday; so that a villa which in England would have been completely finished in a few weeks, occupied in Turkey several years in building. Moreover, ere it was well completed, the luckless owner, if for instance a rich Armenian banker, might have been strangled by order of the Grand Seignor, his fortune confiscated, and his Bosphorian villa appropriated as a gift to some greedy Pacha, or as the dowry of a favourite slave from the seraglio. But the swallow will still return to build her nest on the Gothic pinnacle in spite of the ruin occasionally caused by the merciless hurricane: the Neapolitan still founds his palace on the glowing embers which have covered Pompeia and Herculaneum; and man, true to his own fatal instincts, unwearied in his search after happiness, untaught by past experience, and still trusting to the flatteries of delusive Hope, builds his nest, halcyon like, on the surface of the main, or

> "Lives like a drunken sailor on a mast,
> Ready with every nod to tumble down
> Into the fatal bosom of the deep."

The commerce of the Levant being now chiefly carried on at Smyrna, Constantinople is not much resorted to by British travellers; and even those few who visit it, stay too short a time, or are too much engaged in the pursuits either of business or pleasure, to investigate all its resources. English artists know little of the rich fund of studies, with which a residence of even

six months at that capital, would furnish them. Mr. Aston Barker is the only English painter, I believe, that has availed himself of these advantages, and the beauty and accuracy of his panoramas cannot be forgotten by those who have seen the spots from whence he made his sketches. To an historical painter, the opportunities of there filling his port-folio with drawings of the finest characters, of physiognomy and masculine beauty, cannot be too much recommended. Titian, Bellino, and other Venetian painters, profited by them in former days, and the reader need only cast his eye over the masterly etchings of Denon, in the Voyage de l'Egypte, to be convinced, that the mine is still unexhausted. To the antiquary also, Constantinople might afford a rich treat; the Bezesteins and Jewellers' shops contain, constantly, a large quantity of coins, cameos, and other objects of archæological research, most of which find their way into the hands of persons who are too ignorant to deduce any knowledge from them. I recollect having seen, in the collection of M. De Viscues, a merchant at Pera, two antiques of great value. One was a beautiful cameo, with about fifteen or twenty figures, representing the shipwreck of the hero of the Odyssey, beautifully executed; and the other, the horn of a rhinoceros, admirably sculptured in low relief, the subjects being boar and stag hunts. The latter was purchased, as the proprietor told me, from a Janissary, who said he found it among the sands of Egypt. Its form was scaphoid, resembling that of the double-headed pateræ, in use amongst the ancients, for pouring libations on the altars of the gods; some of which, of pure gold, have been found of late in the bogs of Ireland. The intemperate Thracians were accustomed to empty them in their drinking matches, at a single

draught, a practice which the Highland chieftains of the present day still observe.* It was probably owing to such a heroic exploit, that Alexander the Great owed his sudden death. For although Quintus Curtius seems to hint at the effects of poison, it is more than probable, that apoplexy was the real cause of his decease. He was in the very act of emptying a drinking horn, called the Cup of Hercules, when he fell back, as if transfixed by a weapon, and soon after expired. "*Nondum Herculis scypho epoto repentè velut de telo confixo ingemuit,*" says the historian. The horns of the rhinoceros, or unicorn, were particularly selected by the ancients for these pateræ, from a received opinion, that, by an extraordinary occult and magical quality, no poisonous beverage could be poured into them, without its being indicated by a cold dew, instantaneously distilling from the pores of their surface. Mithridates, therefore, whose whole life, like that of Cromwell, was spent in hourly dread of such a fate, never drank from any other vessel than the horn of a rhinoceros. Nor is the belief in occult qualities or necromancy, at all exploded amongst the lower orders in Turkey, even at this hour. In Knollis's History, may be found occasional notices in proof of this assertion, particularly the stealing, during the night, the feet and head of one Simon Dobbins, a servant of the English ambassador's, who had been hanged for killing a Turk in a drunken fray, which Knollis says, it was suspected they intended to use in some sort of sorcery. A short time before my arrival in Turkey, several young men, Christian *rayahs*, had disappeared in a mysterious manner at Pera. Soon afterwards, suspicion

* A quoif, is the Scottish appellation, corrupted from scyphus.

happening to fall upon an old Zingani woman, the wife of a Janissary, the police entered their dwelling, and found concealed, in an underground cellar, the body of a lusty young Armenian, recently strangled, and exactly in the situation that the Italian painters are accustomed to pourtray St. Bartholomew. It then appeared in evidence, that this Turkish "Canidia," had been for a length of time in the habit of preparing a very admirable cosmetic, a sort of "Pommade Divine," which she sold at a high price to the Scheherazades of the seraglio, to preserve their beauty, and the chief ingredient in which was fresh human fat, procured in this diabolical manner. The wretched couple soon after were empaled alive.

Monsieur Grelot, architect to Louis the Fourteenth, who travelled in Turkey, during the reign of Mahomet the Fourth, in speaking of the villages on the shores of the Dardanelles, says, that these old hags, called *Striglais* or sorceresses, were common there, and thus describes their incantations. "This same race of Circe, having a design to revenge themselves upon any one that has perhaps but given them cross language in the street, do it in this manner. They rise about midnight, and take three flint stones, over which they mumble certain words, which they teach to none but their scholars; which being done, they put the stones in the fire till they are red hot, at which time they take them out again, to light a little wax candle at each, which they place upon the three feet of a three-legged stool, in a kind of imitation of the trikirion of the Greek bishops; this done, they place the three-legged stool across upon their heads, take up the three flints, by this time cold, and sally forth, in this equipage, into the street, where the party lives, and being come to the first place where three ways meet, they throw the stones into

the different passages, believing that by the help of certain words uttered at the same time, those fascinations will produce the intended mischief." Even the noted kettles, which are always carried in solemn procession at the head of each company of the Janissaries, seem to have a close alliance to these magical ceremonies. Whenever a mutiny of this soldiery happens, they carry their stewpans or kettles, into the Etmeidan, and turn them upside down, leaving them in that situation, until they have deposed their Sultan, or obtained the heads of such of the Divan as are obnoxious to them. The classical reader may find many strong analogies in the processions of these kettles, with that of the Ancilia, which were borrowed from the religion of the Etruscans, and adopted by the Romans, amongst their farrago of religious solemnities. These ancilia were always guarded in the temple of Mars, and annually carried in procession by the salii, their priests. At this hour, the corps of Janissaries have their salii, who being always specially employed as bearers of the Grand Seignor's dispatches, are also sometimes called Peichs, and who, on setting off at full gallop, through the streets, call out constantly, "*Sauli! Sauli!*" or take care. An old French writer on Turkey, thus describes them: "*Les Peichs, sitôst qu'ils ont reçu son commandement, partent de la main, sautans et bondissans parmi le peuple, crians* Sauli! Sauli! *c'est comme on dit entre nous* gare! gare! *et ainsi galopans jour et nuict sans prendre relâche, jusques à ce qu'ils soient arrivés au lieu de leur commission.*" Even in Scotland, the mutes, who precede funeral processions, and usually carry on staves the armorial bearings of the deceased, are still called Saulies, very probably from the same origin. But the Roman poets, ignorant of the mother languages

of Asia, derived their name * *a saliendo*, from leaping. While treating on this subject, I may be allowed to mention, that Busbequius alludes to a mode of calling together the armed Servians, by sending round an arrow dipt in blood, from village to village, exactly similar to that so lately in use amongst the clans of the Highlands of Scotland. ** (See notes to Scott's *Lady of the Lake.*)

* "*Et saliis læto portat ancylia collo.*" LUCAN.
"*A saltu nomina ducunt.*" OVID.
"*Esultantes salii.*" VIRGIL.

## CHAPTER XXII.

*Departure from Pera. — Fanaraki. — Voyage across the Black Sea. — Midiah. — Eneada. — Agatopoli. — Sizeboli. — Rites of Circe. — Aiouli. — Zingani. — Mesembria, now Missouri. — Varna. — Turkish Khan. — Arabats. — Dafac. — Bulgarian dwellings and peasantry. — Yeni. — Bazar. — Rusgrade. — Torlaqui. — Dervises. — Pizanza. — Ruschuk. — Giaorgoi. — Bucharest. — Fokshani. — Ancient Dacians. — Birlat. —Jassi. —Botussani. — Czernowitz. — Dr. Fleisch. — The Sivvens of the Transylvanian Mountains. — Native Cinnabar.*

In March 1806, I quitted Pera in a Greek kaique, purposing to cross the Black Sea, and as the state of the weather might permit, either to land at Varna or Galatz, and thence proceed to England. The wind however being variable, and having shifted to the westward when we were abreast of Buyukdera, we were detained there for several days, and during that interval, the Greek reis having been attacked with fever, I was obliged to procure another vessel. To make amends, however, for this vexatious delay, I had the pleasure and good fortune, when at the table of Count Ludolph the Neapolitan Ambassador, (whose hospitality and attentions I in common with many other British travellers have every reason gratefully to remember,) to meet with a gentleman who spoke Turkish fluently, and who was, like myself bound to Varna; we accordingly agreed to make our

boatmen "keep company" during the voyage, to alleviate in some measure the irksomeness of crossing this gloomy sea. The wind having become favourable, we left Buyukdera in the afternoon, but put into the village of Fanaraki, built under the tower of the European light-house, where we passed the night in the house of a Turkish officer — a miserable wooden tenement on a rock overhanging the waves, the open trap stairs of which were in such a state of decay, that we had nearly broken our legs in ascending them. Next morning, with a fair wind and clear weather, we bade adieu to the Cyanæan islands, and the towering promontories of that glorious channel, and sometimes sailing, at other times rowing, we stretched along the shore towards Midiah.

Between Fanaraki and Cape Cara Bouron, (the Black Cape,) the land ascends gradually from the margin of the sea, excepting in some places where the shore seems to have been precipitated into the deep by earthquakes, and then the perpendicular faces of the cliffs, showing their internal stratifications, discover horizontal beds of limestone, alternating with rich veins of coal, so advantageously situated, that shafts might be opened into it almost at the water's edge. These beds of coal stretch for many miles beneath the forest of Belgrade, "cropping out," as the miners term it, in various places, and pursuing a direction from south-west to north-east. It is more than probable that the spontaneous decomposition of the pyrites usually accompanying this formation, gives rise to the violent earthquakes with which Constantinople is so frequently visited. At Midiah, the ancient Salmydessus, are the ruins of an old tower on a low cliff jutting over the waves, and near it our boatmen dropt anchor, in front

of an open sandy beach. They declined going on shore, and, weighing anchor at day-break on the following morning, proceeded towards Mesembria, still running close in with the land, passing in succession the promontory of Eneada with its basaltic columns, and Agatopoli distinguished by a host of small windmills with eight vanes. In the afternoon we reached the village of Sizeboli, the ancient Apollonia, where we procured some fried eggs, bread, and Hæmean honey, for a few aspers. A Greek produced for sale, ancient coins in a leathern bag, from which we selected a few of Istropolis, Apollonia, and Byzantium. Those of Istropolis have been before mentioned. That of Apollonia is of brass, and represents three women with joined hands dancing around a flaming cauldron, performing the Circean orgies of Hecate the infernal Diana, the *Diva triformis.*

——— "*sparsis Medea capillis*
*Bacchantum ritu flagrantes circuit aras.*"

SENEC. Medea.

The obverse is a female head bound with a fillet.

All the interior of Mœsia, says D'Anville, was more anciently called Dardania, from the name of a people known to be savage in an early age; and indeed the inhabitants of this line of coast were ever held infamous for the practice of sorcery, which was called the Dardanian art.

"*At si nulla valet medicina repellere pestem*
*Dardaniæ veniant artes.*"

Apud COLUMELLAM De Re Rust.

Near Sizeboli is Aiolu the ancient Anchiale, whence it is probable the sacred shields (called Ancylia) were brought into Italy,

by the ancient Etruscans. The Scythians were remarkable for large brazen vessels. "Between the rivers Borysthenes and Hypania, there is a place called Exampus," says Herodotus, "where there is a copper vessel six times larger than a similar vessel at the mouth of the Euxine sea, which was consecrated by Pausanias son of Cleombrotus; it contains about 6400 gallons, and is six inches in thickness. The inhabitants of those parts say, that it was made from the heads of arrows or spears of the Scythians; that Ariantus their king being desirous of knowing the number of his subjects, demanded that every Scythian should, on pain of death, bring him the point of an arrow or spear."

After quitting Sizeboli we crossed the little bay of Foros, at the bottom of which is situated the town of Tchingane, the head-quarters and capital of the Zinganies of Mount Hæmus. Next we passed Aiolu, the ancient Anchiolus, then Missouri, anciently Mesembria. I may here notice that Dr. Clarke, following the authority of Strabo and D'Anville, has been misled into a belief, that Briga is the ancient Thracian appellation of a city, synonymous with the Greek *polis*, for it was in fact the *Phrygian* or *Celtic* appellation of a bridge or *brig*, which meaning it still retains in the Scottish dialect, and was added to the proper names of such ancient towns as could boast a bridge. Thus we still say Ferrybridge, Uxbridge, Knightsbridge, Tunbridge, Boroughbridge, &c. And on collating on the map the names of two-and-thirty ancient cities terminating in *briga*, I find that they all had bridges joined to them; as for example Conimbriga, Coimbra in Portugal; Miro-briga, Ciudad Rodrigo in Spain; Durobriga, Rochester in Kent.

Near Missouri the mountains of Hæmus ri ly in a pro-
montory called Emine-bouroun, from the wa
coast continues very steep and rocky, till it r
river of Varna. The high ruins of some c
announced at some distance the importar 7
of Odessus, celebrated in history as the
Milesians, on the Euxine, and in moderi
and death of Ladislaus, king of Hung
totally destroyed in the adjoining valley, l
ror Amurath the First. There is now a ru
projecting into the bay, but so shallow is the
boats grounded before we reached it, and we lande
from the deck on a bullock's wain, which was driv
water to receive our luggage and the crew of the kaiqu
for the first time we were lodged in a Turkish Caravanser
various discomforts of which are hardly to be imagined. It
a ruined quadrangle, with some rotten staircases leading t
dormitories without doors or shutters, the floors of which were
covered with fragments of brick tiles, and mortar rubbish, rags
which swarmed with vermin, and decaying straw, the beds of
preceding occupants. The area of the building was covered with
baggage and horses, and in a corner there were some Turks
squatted on a carpet, near a heap of expiring embers, calmly
smoking their long *tchibouques*, and listening with apparent satis-
faction to the wiry tinkling of a *balalaika*, to which some miserable
Zingáni children, half naked, were distorting their famished and
tawny limbs. Nevertheless, as a strong gale arose, fraught with
snow-storms during the night, we found that bad as our lodging
was, it was better than the open deck of a kaique moored under

r. Eine auswärtige Politik, deren
ste Mehrheit der Franzosen wollte,
uldr waren, noch sein konnten,
undendes Polizeiregiment einer
ßte dergleichen selbst dann er-
ine andere Regierungsweise
die Sache eine Spie-
g klug und beson-
zu behandeln und
ründete Furcht
als diesen
en Zu-
rger

the rocks of the Black Sea. Next morning we hired some arabats, for the accommodation of ourselves and Janissaries, and proceeded towards Ruschuk. These arabats are light covered waggons, drawn by two horses, which travel at the rate of five miles an hour. The drivers were Turks, fierce-looking ruffians, armed with pistols, yatagans, and cartridge-boxes, and whose equipments were sufficiently indicative of the state of the country through which we were to pass. After a tedious day's journey, ascending by deep roads, slate hills, covered with hazel copses, we reached a hamlet on a steep, commanding a distant view of the Black Sea, where our drivers told us we should pass the night. This hamlet is called Dafne. We were lodged in the house of a Bulgarian peasant, and were most agreeably surprised by finding it remarkably clean and warm. This, like all the other Bulgarian cabins which we entered, was built of wood and mud, or pisa, well thatched and surrounded with a broad portico supported by pillars, which, by throwing off the rain from the walls, kept the foundations close and dry. The principal apartment is always well matted and surrounded by a low divan with cushions. A small three-legged stool for holding the dinner tray is the only furniture, and there is a large fire-place, with a good wood fire, warming while it enlightens the room, which is often without any window. The faces of the women are not veiled, their head-dresses are composed of lofty tiaras of muslin, ornamented with long strings of paras, piastres, and other coins, while their necks, arms, and ears, are loaded with necklaces, bracelets, and ear-rings of gold or silver, of barbaresque form and workmanship. Their dialect is Sclavonian, and they affect to follow the ritual and observances of the Greek church, but they, as well as their religious instructors are so ignorant, that

all their devotions are generally confined to repeating one or two prayers, making the sign of the cross, observing fast and saint days, and worshipping little images of fantastic shapes, which they call saints, more frequently resembling the rude images or lares of the ancients. Each *papas* or village priest performs the duties of officiating at the funerals, marriages, or baptisms of the inhabitants of two or three villages, who join in paying him a miserable stipend. The Bulgarians are generally a humane, kind-hearted people, hospitable to such strangers as come under their humble roofs.

After leaving Dafne, our subsequent stages were Yeni-bazar, Zahunas, Kioui, Rasgrade, Torlaqui, Pizanza, and Ruschuk.

Yeni-bazar (the new market), is a small town, containing a mixed population of about three hundred families, of which, perhaps, fifty only, are Bulgarians. The town, as its name imports, is modern, and owes its rise chiefly to the emigration of poor families from Wallachia and Moldavia, who pass over the Danube, and take refuge in Bulgaria, to avoid the tyranny and extortion practised by Greek tax-gatherers, and their native Boyars, choosing to live even under all the miseries of Turkish tyranny, rather than to endure the fallacious freedom of such a representative system as they are oppressed with at home, a truth, by the way, not a little in favour of honest despotism, and confirming the assertion of a celebrated writer, that Turkish domination is most fatal to the great, but merciful to the poorer classes of the empire. At this place we lodged in the house of a Turk, who had retired from the corps of janissaries, and lived upon a military fief, or *timariot*. The old man received us with much kindness and hospitality, ordering an excellent *pillau* to be prepared for us, giving us a warm sleeping room, and good mattrasses.

We found the face of the country through which we passed so veiled in snow, that its more prominent features only could be perceived. It seemed, for the most part, open and fertile, but thinly peopled, and, of course, exhibiting but little tillage, although reputed the best wheat country in European Turkey. Thickets of oak appeared from time to time, and the lofty mountains of Hæmus occasionally glittered in the sun-beams at a great distance on the left of our road. We met no travellers, excepting between Rasgrade and Torlaqui, when we encountered a cavalcade of nearly a thousand Turkish spahis descending a steep hill escorting the warlike Pacha Mustapha Bairactar, then on a tour through the towns of his Pashalik, collecting his revenue, and redressing grievances.

He was a dark good-looking man, apparently under forty, with a bushy black beard, well mounted on an Arabian stallion, and cloathed in a superb pelisse, with an Indian shawl covering his turban. The Albanian janissaries who accompanied him, were arrayed in all the splendour of Asiatic warfare; their rich-coloured costume and silver-mounted pistols (*yatagans*), and sabres chosen without any regard to uniformity; the ruffian fierceness of their deportment, and the neighing of their stallions gave an air of novelty to the scene which was very imposing.

Rasgrade, or Laz-garad, a corruption of Lazigorod, or city of the Lazi*, is a town of some magnitude. It seems to have been founded, as the name imports, by the Lazi, one of the vagabond tribes from the valleys of Caucasus, and if we can suppose its foundation as remote as the period of the Argonautic expedition,

* *Lazi*, slingers.

it may be the identical settlement of the pursuers of Jason and Medea, mentioned in ancient history. Its present population may be estimated at 10,000 souls, one-third of whom are Greek Christians, the remainder Jews and Turks. It contains two small mosques, and is surrounded with mud walls, in a ruinous state. The country around is an open plain, abounding with Scythian barrows, probably the monuments of that expedition of Alexander the Great against the Triballi, which is mentioned in the Supplement of Quintus Curtius. The supposition is the more probable, as this plain is in the direct route which the army of Alexander must have taken in issuing from the defiles of Mount Hæmus, after he had defeated the Thracian Autonomi, who had ineffectually opposed their *carrago* of waggons to their Macedonian invaders. "*Insiderant montis verticem* (says the historian) *curribus pro vallo, qua patebat aditus utebantur, inde pugnaturi si necessitas postulasset.* *

Syrmus, king of the Triballi, had fled with all his riches, women and children, to the island of Peuce in the Danube; a body of troops headed by one of his generals was left behind to retard the progress of Alexander, who defeated them with great slaughter, and continuing his pursuit to the banks of the river, crossed it in the night-time on a bridge of boats; and on finding the capital deserted, levelled it with the ground. It was then that he received the memorable embassy of that proud and independent race, who, when asked what they most dreaded, replied, they feared nothing except the fall of the heavens above. "*Illi hoc se in primis timere responderunt, ne forte in sese aliquando cœlum rueret.*" This lofty sentiment is still pre-

* Supplement, *Quint. Curt.* lib. ii.

served amongst the Scots, who in answer to any improbable or cowardly supposition, reply; "And if the lift should fa' and smoor the lav'rock!"*

This brave and generous people, the Triballi, afterwards perished in a body in the waters of the Danube, by the sudden yielding of the ice under the weight of their waggons.

At Torlaqui, five leagues from Rasgrade, the population is principally Turkish. A sect of Dervises take their origin here, who live by roaming over Turkey, and subsisting on the superstitious terrors which they infuse into the minds of the peasants. They carry with them in these peregrinations an old man, whom, like the Xamolxis of the ancient Getæ, or the Lama of the Tartars, they impose upon the credulous as a living incarnation of the Divinity, affecting always to hold him in the highest veneration. They have an establishment for him in the greatest state at the best house in the village. "Ever and anon" this old Lama prognosticates some impending public calamity, such as earthquake, pestilence, or famine; which is only to be averted by sending him rich gifts. The terrified peasantry hasten to propitiate the divine wrath, by laying at the feet of the holy man all their little wealth, and the threatened danger ceases for a time to appal them.

We passed a night at Pizanza, which is a poor village of straggling rude huts, covering in a picturesque manner the side of a steep slate rock. Here our Janissary did to us, that which Busbequius complains as having happened more than once to himself, for he roused us at the crowing of the cock, assuring us

* What if the heavens should fall and smother the lark!

it was day-light. We dressed ourselves in haste, believing the positive assertions of the augur. It brought forcibly to my recollection one of my native ballads, and with it the pleasing remembrance of Mrs. Jordan's singing,

> " The lassie thought it day,
> " When she warn'd her love away;
> " But it was but a blink of the moon."

We left Pizanza in a drizzling cold rain, and getting to the top of a hill, hailed with heartfelt delight the white minarets and towers of Ruschuk, and the wide expanded waters of the " dark flowing Danube." After procuring a cup of muddy coffee at a Turkish inn, we lost no time in entering a flat-bottomed boat, and soon reached the opposite shore of Wallachia. In our journey through " the infamous Bulgaria," our convoy had been increased by four Armenian merchants well armed, so that altogether we amounted to at least twenty persons. To our numbers it is probable that we owed our safety, for at a village near Laz-grade, on stopping to halt for an hour, eight Albanians well mounted and still better armed, entered the court of the inn, and if one might be permitted to judge of their intentions by the villainy of their scrutinising looks, their visit was not without a motive of the worst kind; however they seemed to regard our party as too strong to be attacked, and after putting a few questions to our Janissaries set off at full speed, certainly not accompanied with our regrets at their departure.

After sleeping at Giaourkioi, we reached Bucharest next day, where I purchased a berline, and having dismissed with presents,

the faithful Janissary who had accompanied me from Constantinople, I left the hospitable roof of Mr. Summerer, the English Consul, who very obligingly gave me letters both to the Greek Spravenich, at Fokshani, and to Mr. Kuchanoff, the Russian Consul at Jassi. My journey from Bucharest to Fokshani, was of the most painful nature; the cold was so intense, and the country so deeply covered with snow, that it was with much difficulty the post-boys could get the poor starved horses to drag the vehicle through the ruts. Often were they obliged to alight and put their shoulders to the wheels, and rub the ears of the horses. As to my own ears, they were frost-bitten long ere I reached Jassy, in spite of the ten-fold covering of a red Turkish shawl and a thick calpac of Astracan fur. The ferries were frequent, and at these we found wine huts; but it was necessary to thaw the liquor before we could drink it, and then it tasted as weak as sour small beer. Never before had I suffered so much from cold, and I could perfectly sympathise with Ovid, in execrating the horrors of a Scythian winter in Dacia. To crown our miseries, in descending the muddy precipice leading to a frozen rivulet, the post-boys jerked the horses through a mass of ice, and snapped one of the springs of the carriage, which detained us at Fokshani, while a smith put together the fragments. The population at this place speak pure Latin. "*Dominatio vestra advena est in hâc nostra terrâ*," was the salutation of a person who sold me a few spices in the market place.* The well pronounced

* The Poles and Sclavonians, in speaking Latin, rejecting *Tu*, always use the third, instead of the second person singular, which destroys the beautiful simplicity of the language.

language, and tall muscular figure of the speaker, seemed to vindicate his presumptive origin from the Roman legionaries of Dacia.

At length I reached Birlat, and recognised the Moldavian scenery I had passed in the preceding autumn; but what a change had a few months produced on the surrounding objects; those very plains which I had seen covered with herds and flowers, were now a dreary waste, buried in snow, blasted by the northern winds, silent and depopulated. The individuals who had charge of the post-houses had retired in many instances under ground, and they emerged in wolf-skins from their caves; the extensive stables displayed a few worn-out and famished horses, while the hides suspended from the roof by scores, plainly told the havoc that hunger, winter, and hard usage had caused amongst these unfortunate animals. In crossing the mountains, which impend over Jassy, we were forced to have recourse to "the race of Apis," to drag my crazy vehicle through the torrents occasioned by the melting snows. At Jassy, I met with the kindest reception from Prince Alexander and his consort, who again received me with every demonstration of gratitude and kindness, and presented their little child to me, who had completely recovered from the rickets, and was now a fine healthy boy. I found the old Hospodar equally polite, and delighted with having got into his new palace. It was then that I learnt for the first time that the Prince had written to his brother the Dragoman at the Porte, mentioning the benefit his child had received from my prescriptions, and that my visit to the Sultana Validè had been in consequence of this recommendation.

On taking leave, the Prince charged me with letters to his kinsman, the *Spravenich Frangopoli*, at Botushany, at whose house I spent a night, and prescribed, in passing, for two of his children, affected with rickets. This gentleman was a Greek of Naxos, and if I mistake not, the same mentioned by Dr. Clarke, as having, with Prince Alexander, accompanied that traveller and the Turkish Ambassador in their journey across Mount Hæmus.

When I reached Czernowitz, I visited an Austrian physician there, named Dr. Fleisch, to deliver a letter from the Prince's physician, Dr. Lorenzo, of Jassy.

Dr. Fleisch communicated to me the result of some researches in which he had been engaged by order of the Austrian chancery, for the purpose of investigating a singular contagious disease which is very prevalent amongst the mountaineers of Transylvania. This disorder is similar to that known in Galloway, and some other counties in Scotland, by the name of *sivvens*, and not very dissimilar to the yaws of the West Indies. The mountains themselves are called Sieven-bergen, but whether the malady gives name to the mountains, or the mountains to the malady, I could not discover. Sivva in the Gaelic tongue signifies a wild raspberry or a sieve, and Sivva was also the name of Venus amongst the Vandalic tribes. The malady is propagated by contact, and is dispersed through whole districts by drinking from the cup of an infected person, or smoking from the same tobacco-pipe. It destroys the lips, cheeks, palate, and uvula, by deep ulcerations which are often fatal. Dr. Fleisch had discovered that these poor people were in the habit of curing each other by fumigations of native cinnabar, thrown on a heated

iron, and that they also pounded the same mineral, and having mixed it with butter, spread it on their bread, and ate it in large quantities. As this is perhaps the most primitive method of using this valuable specific, I have thought that the brief statement of the fact might not prove uninteresting to the medical world; and perhaps, short as it is, it may be the means of calling the attention of my professional brethren to this subject.[23]

## CHAPTER XXIII.

*Lemberg. — Salt Mines of Wieliczka. — Conjectures as to the Origin of Fossil-salt. — The Ocean the Parent of Salt. — Cracow. — Silesia. — Miseries of War. — Bielitz. — Jagersdorff. — Newstadt. — Neisse. — A Family of Irish Exiles. — Conclusion.*

At Czernowitz, I dismissed the Albanian Janissary, whom I had hired at Bucharest, and pushed on towards Lemberg. Rainy weather, melting snows, and deep clayey roads continued to render my journey not the most agreeable. After quitting Lemberg, I met hourly, on the roads of Galitzia, large parties of wounded Russians, returning in rags and upon crutches, from the military hospitals of Austerlitz. What a contrast did their wretched appearance form to that of the gallant troops I had seen in autumn, when "hope told its flattering tale," and the anticipation of victory lighted up every eye!

A fracture of one of my wheels having detained me some hours at Wieliczka, I eagerly seized that opportunity of descending into the celebrated salt mine.

There are several shafts leading to different districts of this immense series of excavations; that which I entered is called Janina. We were lowered into the abyss by means of a large cable, to which we were made fast by slings and buckles: when all the party had descended, torches were lighted, and we found

ourselves at the entrance of a chapel, hollowed out of the salt-rock containing altars, columns, and statues.

From thence we descended by spacious galleries and winding passages from one chamber to another, to the depth of 900 feet, where we found our farther progress terminated by a large lake formed from the accumulated water of the springs issuing from the sides of the mine: these springs dissolve large quantities of salt in their passage, and when at rest, deposit it in beautiful cubical crystallizations at the bottom of the lake, from whence they are raked up by means of instruments with long iron prongs. The extent of these excavations is about 6000 feet in their longest diameter, which is from north to south, and about 2000 feet from east to west; the greatest depth to which they have yet gone is 900 feet, but even below that level they have ascertained the existence of immense strata of salt extending from east to west to an unknown distance. In descending from the earth's surface, the following order of strata has been found; first, loose vegetable mould; next clay, argillaceous earth or marl; thirdly, a fine sand mixed with water, which the workmen call zye; fourthly, a black and very compact clay, immediately under which they come upon the fossil salt. The salt found nearest the surface is distributed in immense detached masses, but lower down it is found like fossil coal, in continuous strata, and of such hardness that the workmen are obliged to employ highly tempered pickaxes and wedges, and to blast it with gunpowder. The masses thus detached are generally oblong squares of 30 or 50 feet: these again are formed into parallelopipeds, and inclosed in small firkins, in which packages they are sent to the most remote extremities of Poland, Austria, and Russia. The larger fragments are rolled along like masses of Portland-stone, by

means of wooden rollers to the bottom of the shafts, and then elevated by large windlasses moved by twelve horses. There are ten such shafts, from four to five yards in diameter, some appropriated to elevating the produce, others to the admission of the workmen, or discharge of the waters. The chambers scooped out in various directions, resemble in extent the aisles of a cathedral. We entered one that contained a large table, at which, on solemn occasions, (such as the visits of the members of the Imperial family,) three hundred persons have been accommodated. Occasionally, in blasting the rock, the workmen lay open collections of water, which rushing out leave the cavities they occupied covered with the finest groupes of large crystals. Pebbles too, rounded by the action of water, are often found, together with petrified shells and other marine productions, in the midst of the blocks of salt. Bitumen, and forest trees pervaded with salt and bitumen, are to be met with in considerable quantities. The workmen call this wood Wagh-Solin, or the charcoal of salt. It often approaches to the lustre and hardness of jet, and emits a strong and very disagreeable odour, incommoding the miners, in those places which are not well ventilated. Such spots emit carbonated hydrogen gas, in large quantities, which rushes suddenly from the fissures of the rocks, and catching fire, explodes, and destroys the miners around. These inflammable exhalations are particularly dangerous after holidays, when there has been a cessation of working, and it is then dangerous to enter particular galleries with a light. Sometimes even, without exploding, this gas has killed the workmen, by producing asphyxia; but accidents are much more frequent in the neighbouring mines of Bochnia than at Wieliczka. One of the shafts contains a wooden staircase, of 470 steps; and shafts, as well as passages,

are lined with wood, to prevent the falling in of the sides. The workmen employed generally amount to 450, and in one of the mines, there is a stable containing 50 horses. No women are ever permitted to enter them. The galleries and shafts are perfectly dry, and even dusty; for the salt, imbibing all moisture, like a sponge, robs even the human body in its passage, and makes the mouth and throat feel hot and dry. The intricacy of the numerous passages is such, that they sometimes mislead even those best accustomed to them. The mines of Bochnia employ 250 workmen; their extent from north to south is only 750 feet, and from east to west 10,000 feet. The superincumbent strata have also a similar arrangement, but there are no detached masses above the continuous strata. The richness of these two mines is such, that it has been calculated that their contents might suffice for the population of Europe. Every year there are dug up six hundred thousand quintals; and although they have now been worked above five hundred and sixty years, (having been discovered in 1251,) there is at present no appearance of their contents being exhausted.

The origin of fossil salt has been a subject of conjecture and controversy to naturalists and chemists. Count Marsigli and others, have imagined, that the ocean has acquired its saltness by coming in contact with masses of salt, which its waters have dissolved; whilst others, with more probability conceive, that salt is produced by the ocean itself, and that strata of it have been deposited by the receding and evaporation of its waters. The latter opinion seems much the most tenable, from the innumerable evidences of the various revolutions which this our globe has undergone in past ages, and which we may presume it is still undergoing from the agency of volcanoes and subterraneous fires

evaporating the aqueous fluids, and leaving the salts in a dry and crystallized form. At Pozo, near Burgos, in Castile, a mine of rock salt has been found occupying the crater of an extinct volcano, and Mr. Fernandez there found pumice-stones, puzzuolain, and other volcanic products, mixed with the salt itself.

In illustration also of the latter opinion, an ingenious lecturer on natural philosophy has lately suggested, that marine plants may be constantly emitting chlorine gas, just as terrene plants are giving out oxygene gas, and that their decomposition furnishes soda, which unites with chlorine after it has absorbed a sufficiency of oxygene from the water to become muriatic acid gas. Thus the sub-marine vegetation, constantly going on in the bosom of the ocean, supplies all the elements necessary to the production of fossil salt. In support also of this theory, it may be added, that in such lakes or inland seas, as produce no marine vegetables, the waters are sweet. For in the Black Sea there are no plants of marine growth; and there, the waters are scarcely brackish, yet the shores of the Black Sea, in all directions, abound with fossil salt, which fact proves that the sea does not receive its saltness from the fossil salt rocks in its vicinity. Nevertheless, it must be conceded, that as no human ingenuity has as yet succeeded in making marine plants vegetate any where but in the bed of the ocean itself, it will be most difficult to bring the hypothesis to the test of experiment, the only touchstone of truth.

Within a few miles of Wieliczka are a range of low hills, in which are found both sulphur and pumice-stone, as well as springs impregnated with sulphuretted hydrogen, all which are strong proofs of the former agency of volcanic fires. The beds

of salt into which the excavations of Bochnia and Wieliczka penetrate, dip with an angle of 40 degrees from the horizon, and are found to extend on the southern as well as the northern sides of the Carpathian mountains, for a space of six hundred miles, that is to say, from Wieliczka, in the north-west, to Fokshani and Rymnich, in Moldavia, in the south-east. The beds on the southern side have been excavated to double the depth, for at Eperies, in Hungary, is a salt mine 1800 feet below the surface of the earth.

From Wieliczka, I proceeded to Cracow, with the intention of prosecuting my journey in a direct line from thence to Breslau; but I found, on arriving there, to my mortification, that I had been deceived by my map of the roads; for they were absolutely impassable for a carriage; I was therefore obliged to make a considerable detour to the left, and again pass through Silesia. Cracow was still in the same forlorn and dilapidated state, in which Wraxall has described it, in 1778.[24] Its subsequent occupation, by the Russian, Prussian, and Polish armies, has of course tended rather to increase the misery and depopulation of that ill fated city, once the capital of Poland.

On entering Silesia, it was most melancholy to observe the consequences which had resulted from the short but fatal campaign of Austerlitz. Although the enemies' troops had never entered the province, yet their barbarous auxiliaries the Cossacks and Russians seemed to have visited the Silesians with all the calamities of war. Houses unroofed and destroyed, — despoiled of the thatching, pulled down to feed and litter the cavalry; whilst the beams and floorings had been converted into fuel. Misery and famine appearing in every countenance, while putrid petechial fevers, raging with all the fury of pestilence,

seemed to have converted each dwelling into an hospital; for in every village I was surrounded with famished convalescents, like crawling skeletons, covered with rags, and further disfigured with the matted locks of Plica Polonica. Such heart-rending spectacles were then new to me; but the years I have since spent in the Peninsula have made warfare and its train of horrors but too familiar.

Bielitz, that town, once so beautiful, happy, and peaceful, the "very Auburn of the province," I found a heap of ruins. The stables of the post-houses were untenanted; for the incessant passage of couriers and estaffettes had exterminated the luckless cattle, and although my errand was pressing, and delay was more than irksome, I was constrained at times to wait for hours at the stages before three or four wind-galled animals could be collected from the neighbouring farm-houses to forward me on my journey. On an occasion of this kind I was detained one evening at Jagersdorff a post-town in the mountains between Trappau and Neustadt; the place was silent and depopulated, and suggested the idea of a Turkish cemetery, rather than that of a Christian hamlet. I had seated myself at a ruined casement, awaiting with impatience the return of a messenger sent to collect horses, whilst a centinel, pacing the opposite side of the market-place, commenced singing to a well-known Austrian air, the stanzas of

"*Kennst du das land wo blumchen leibe bluht,*" &c.

The stilly coldness of the night, the echo of the deserted streets, the remembrance of all the circumstances of the time and place when I had last listened to the same melody, aided by the thrilling effect of the chorus, "Dahin! Dahin!" produced a deep

emotion; and upon the arrival of the horses I participat
the *nostalgic* feelings of a Swiss recruit on hearing the "
*Vaches*" of his native village; I threw myself back in
and bribed the postillion to urge his horses towards
From thence to Neisse, a fortified town of some note,
the distance is but short, and the country beautiful, the
seemed long and irksome: but a clean, well-built town, wit
good inn, a decent furnished room, a snow-white table-cloth, a
healthy viands, were objects to which I had of late been unac-
customed; and, after taking some refreshment, I was about to
renew my journey homewards with renovated animation, when
the waiter announced a stranger who wished to speak to me.
Immediately a female entered the room, followed by two chil-
dren; she was dressed in the clean simple costume of the
country, and I of course expected to be addressed in the German
tongue, but my surprise was great when, with the genuine Hi-
bernian accent of the province of Connaught, she exclaimed,
"God bless your Honour, when I heard at the guard-house your
name was *O'Neil*, I thought you wouldn't be sorry to see some
of your own country-folks in this strange country; and sure
enough it's a poor country too, God knows, and poor Pat and
myself are often almost breaking our hearts just when we look at
our two bairns there, God bless them, and thinking that if we die
here, there's small likelihood of their ever seeing poor Ireland;
and, what's worse than all, that they can speak little else but that
vile *Prusshen*. God knows, your Honour, how it vexes both Pat
and myself. And so Pat's on guard now, or the poor boy would
come and see your Honour himself, so I just made bold to bring
the bairns to spake to your Honour." When she at length gave
me an opportunity of putting a few questions to her, I found

her tale was as short and simple as it was affectingly told. Her husband had been a private in the militia of the county of ———, and during the rebellion of the year 1798, being implicated in "the suspicion of guilt," had been thrown into prison, and afterwards embarked with many hundreds of his luckless countrymen, and transported to the Prussian port of Embden, whence they had been marched up the country, and distributed in different regiments belonging to His Prussian Majesty. It had been the lot of this poor couple to be placed in a regiment at Neisse, and here they had remained upwards of seven years, without once passing the drawbridges of the town. She was anxious to vindicate her husband's character, proclaiming his innocence, and saying that he only left his regiment for a night to visit her at her father's, and that he never intended to desert to the rebels. When I endeavoured to comfort and reconcile her to her lot, praising the decent cleanliness of her own attire, and that of her children, she acknowledged that the linen of "*Prusshi* was almost as good as poor Ireland," but although she always thought Ireland poor, "*Prusshi* was much poorer, God knows." She lived servant, she said, to a Prussian officer's wife, who had taken a fancy to her, because she was a better laundress than the other women of the regiment; and then in her rapid, and artless way, drew, in a few words, a true yet ludicrous* picture of the miserable shifting sort of life which the married officers of the Prussian army lead; their miserable and inadequate pay being insufficient to support their families. She was employed, she said, "one half of the week in carrying their *duds* of cloaths to the pawnbroker's, and the other half in taking them out." This I

* "*Nullum durius in se habet paupertas*
*Quam quod homines ridiculos facit.*"

believed to be no caricature, for I had heard at Berlin, that even the officers of the Royal Guards employed their men to purloin the baggage of strangers from their carriages, when entering the gates, that they might share the plunder, and gratify their taste for gambling and luxury. After giving the children a rix-dollar, I begged to see her husband, who obtained leave from the officer on guard to come to the door of the inn. Neither of the two could read or write, but they wished much to have their lot and present state made known to an uncle named M'Manus, who, they said, lived in London, and was a man of great note and wealth. They had never seen him,—had only heard their friends in Ireland tell about him; but they were certain he was a man of good property, and lived somewhere about Bow-street. They wished to write him a letter, but the only Irishman in the regiment who could write had two days before received his discharge, and was gone to Berlin; "and sure his departure was at this present time a great loss." Some eight or nine more of these luckless exiles soon gathered around my carriage, amongst whom I could not do less, as a true *O'Neil*, than distribute a few rix-dollars, and in return they accompanied my carriage with smiling lips and watery eyes to the gates of Neisse, where the double line of drawbridges and barriers separated us for ever, and in silence I prosecuted my journey through Breslau to Berlin.

# NOTES.

### Note 1. Page 2. Chapter I.

" In commune Herthum, id est, Terram Matrem colunt, eamque intervenire " rebus hominum, invehi populis, arbitrantur. Est in Insulâ Oceani castum " nemus, dicatum in eo vehiculum, veste contectum, attingere uni sacerdoti con- " cessum. Is adesse penetrali deam intelligit, vectamque bobus fœminis multâ " cum veneratione prosequitur. Læti tunc dies, festa loca, quæcumque adventu " hospitioque dignatur. Non bella ineunt, non arma sumunt, clausum omne " ferrum; pax et quies tunc tantùm nota, tunc tantùm amata, donec idem sacerdos " satiatam conversatione mortalium deam templo reddat; mox vehiculum et vestes, " et si credere velis, numen ipsum secreto lacu abluitur. Servi ministrant, quos " statim idem lacus haurit. Arcanus hinc terror, sanctaque ignorantia, quid sit " id, quod tantùm perituri vident." — *Tacitus de Moribus Germanorum.*

Rhea, or the Earth, was called also Ops; Cybele; Masuer Mater Deorum; Berecynthia; Idæa; Dyndymene. She was painted as a matron, crowned with towers, and sitting in a chariot, drawn by lions or oxen. — Ovid thus describes her religious rites:—

" Est locus, in Tiberim quâ lubricus influit Almo,
Et nomen magno perdit ab amne minor.
Illîc purpureâ canus cum veste sacerdos
Almonis, Dominam *sacraque lavit aquis.*
Exululant comites furiosaque tibia flatur;
Et feriunt molles taurea terga manus.
Claudia præcedit, læto celeberrima vultu;
Credita vix tandem teste *pudica Deâ.*
*Ipsa sedens plaustro portâ cst* invecta Capena:
Sparguntur *junctæ* flore recente *boves.*"

*Ovid. Fast.* lib. iv. v. 337.

Ceres was also another appellation of Rhæa, and to her was sacrificed a pregnant sow.

" Accipiat *gravidæ* cur *suis* exta Ceres?"—*Ovid. de Ponto,* lib. ii. v. 30.

Diana was also the same deity worshipped at Ephesus in Asia Minor. Di, Goddess — Ana, Mother, (Turkish) — thus, Di-ana — Anaitis — the Goddess Mother, the Mother of Itys, or Atys, fate — Ates signifies fire in Turkish. All these different appellations appear to have been applied to signify Nature clothed in her various attributes — thus, Rhe-a is the Celtic for Regina Undarum, or Queen of Waters — Ops, the great Cycle, or great Serpent, which Saturn is represented holding in his right hand — Phoseta seems to be Vestaphos, signifying light.

" Having been informed of a curious piece of Antiquity called the temple of *Anaitis*, in Dunvegan, we set out after breakfast. The first thing we came to, was an earthen mound or dyke — a little farther was a strong stone wall, &c. &c. The sacred spot contains more than two acres — within it are the ruins of many houses, a *cairn*, and many graves, marked by clusters of stones. I was *assured* that the ruin of a small building, standing east and west, was *actually* the temple of the Goddess ANAITIS, *where her statue was kept, and from whence* PROCESSIONS *were made*, TO WASH *it in the* BROOKS. The country is a black dreary moor on all sides," &c. &c. &c. — *Boswell's Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides.*

There is an island, says Artemidorus, near Britain, in which the sacred rites of Ceres and Proserpine are observed, as in Samothrace. — *Art. apud Strabo*, lib. iv. p. 191.

Horace alludes to the worship of Herthus in the first epistle, book 2d.

" Agricolæ prisci, fortes, parvoque beati,
Condita post frumenta, levantes tempore festo
Corpus et ipsum animum spe finis dura ferentem
*Tellurem porco*, Sylvanum lacte *piabant.*"

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NOTE 2. PAGE 22. CHAPTER III.

" Pawning. — It appears from the first week's Report of the Visiting Association of the Poor in St. James's Parish, that the families then inspected were 2204, consisting of 7672 individuals, who had in their possession duplicates for articles pawned by them to relieve their pressing wants, to the amount of five thousand eight hundred and twenty-one pounds!!!" — *Star Newspaper; January* 9, 1817.

The reader may calculate the profits of pawnbrokers from the above paragraph.

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NOTE 3. PAGE 27. CHAPTER III.

That the idea of divine retribution had occurred to Hugo Grotius, is evident from the following passage in his celebrated work, " De Veritate Religionis Christianæ." After noticing the free agency of man, " Deus hominem et mentes,

sublimiores homine, creavit cum agendi libertate; quæ agendi libertas vitiosa non est, sed potest suâ vi aliquid vitiosum producere." — "Et hujus quidem generis malis, quæ moraliter dicuntur mala, omnino Deum adscribere autorem nefas est." He says, "At sunt quæ alio sensu dicuntur mala, quia certæ personæ doloris aut damni adferunt aliquid, quæ a Deo proficisci, puta ad emendationem hominis, *aut etiam in pœnam delicto* RESPONDENTEM, nihil vetat."

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NOTE 4. PAGE 38. CHAPTER III.

Barrieco or Baraeco. Mentioned also by Masdeu in his "Historia Critica de Espana," vol. v. p. 44, as a divinity unknown to the Romans. In the territory of Lisbon, was found the following inscription:

AMMINUS
ANDIATTIÆ. F. BANDIAR. BARIAICO.
VOTUM L. M. S.

And at Ruanes in Gallicia this

RAVVEANA. BARAECO
AFER
ALBINI. F. TUROLUS
V. S. L. M.

Masdeu laments that he can throw no light on these inscriptions, the Baraeco being, he says, the most obscure article of the ancient mythology of Spain. It might seem, however, to have been to this divinity that the Romans applied the name of Numen Porcinum.

"Judæus licet et *porcinum numen* adoret
Et cœli summas advocet auriculas
Ne tamen et ferro succideret inguinis oram
Et nisi nudatum solveret arte caput."
*Petronii Arbitri Fragmenta, Edit. Joan. Maire, Lugdun.* p. 101.

The peasantry of Exmoor in Devonshire, still call a Sow a Baarge, which is a corruption of Baraeco, or rather the latter word is derived from the former, which is Celtic.

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NOTE 5. PAGE 40. CHAPTER IV.

Prussia as well as Hanover is covered with sands. The Cimbri of old were certainly so called from this circumstance — Koum-berri, or the dwellers in sand — Koum being sand in Turkish. Cham — Chem — Koum. Thus, Chemia — sands —

Egypt. *Cim*merian Bosphorus also sandy — *Coim*bra, or Koum-bra, Portugal — the bridge upon the sands.

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NOTE 6. PAGE 91. CHAPTER VII.

Cæsar alludes to these Carragos frequently. " Alteri ad impedimenta et *carros* suos se contulerunt. Ad multam noctem etiam ad impedimenta pugnatum est: propterea quod *pro vallo carros objecerent*, et e loco superiore in nostros venientes tela conjiciebant, et nonnulli inter *carros* rotasque mataras ac tragulas subjiciebant, nostrosque vulnerabant." (*Cæsar*, lib. 1. cap. 26.) " Helvetii cum *omnibus suis carris secuti*, *impedimenta in unum* locum *contulerunt*:" (*Cæsar*, lib. 1. cap. 24.) " *Omnemque aciem suam* rhedis et *carris circumdederunt*, ne qua spes in fugâ relinqueretur. Eò mulieres imposuerunt." (*Cæs.* lib. 1. cap. 51.) " Venerant eò sagittarii ex Ruthenis, equites ex Galliâ, cum multis *carris* magnisque impedimentis, ut fert *Gallica consuetudo*." (*Cæs.* lib. 1. cap. 51.)

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NOTE 7. PAGE 109. CHAPTER VIII.

When Mr. Wraxall visited Vienna, he found all their great men of that day occupied in discovering the philosopher's stone. — A Servian Count, named *Zaunowich*, who published some Letters at Pera in 1776, under the title of *Lettere Turche*, with the signature of Osman, thus describes them: " Un Signor della Corte di Monaco di Baviera mi diede nel momento della mia partenza per . . . . una lettera, assicurandomi che troverò appresso la persona a cui era diretta tutte le qualità le piu interessanti. In fatti quando fui solo restai bonamente persuasissimo di quanto mi disse avendo la lettera questa soprascritto.

" A SUA EXCELLENZA,
" Il Signore Massimiliano d'Orendorff,
Signore delle Terre de Tonibandorff,
Barone del Castello di Ravendorff,
Colonello di S. A. S. ————
Cavaliere dell Ordine —— e Intendente
Onorario delle Mine d'Argento nei Cercoli
Dell' alta Germania, &c. &c. &c. &c.
A ————

" In consequenza di sì superbi titoli non ho dubitato che giunto alla Città subito fossi per ritrovar il Palazzo di Residenza di questo Magnifico Tedesco. Ma quel

non fù la mia sorpresa quando dopo una ricerca di più settimana ritrovai questo Signore in un Granajo, nudo come el Precursor di Gesù-Christo, circondato da venti, e trenta Pentole, e sucido di Carbone, e di fumo intorno ad un forno Chimico con la pazza protensione di far dell' oro! Più che in fretta gli lasciai la sua lettera, e mi precipitai giù per le scale per timore che vedendomi con il Turbante, ed il Chaiftan, non mi credesse potabile come l'oro e non gli venisse in testa di mettermi come un ingrediente necessario alla grande Opera, in un Lambico.

*Lett.* 43, p. 206.

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NOTE 8. PAGE 114. CHAPTER IX.

The Baron Van Swieten died in an apartment in the palace of Schoenbrun, in consequence of a mortification of the toes, on the 18th day of June, 1772, and was interred in the Augustine church. His Commentaries on the Aphorisms of Boerhaave, and his work on Army Diseases, are the best monuments of his knowledge as a Physician. He was the Radcliffe of Austria.

See *Eloy. Dict. Hist. de Medicine.*

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NOTE 9. PAGE 163. CHAPTER XIII.

" ——————————— for he
Must serve who fain would sway — and soothe — and sue
And watch all time — and pry into all place —
And be a living lie — who would become
A mighty thing amongst the mean." — *Manfred, by Lord Byron.*

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NOTE 10. PAGE 186. CHAPTER XIV.

See Philostrat. Heroic. in Achill. c. 16. Maxim. Tyr. Orat. 27. Strabo. lib. vii. Pomp. Mela, lib. ii. cap. 7. Plin. lib. iii. c. 12. Dionys. Per. v. 541. Arrian. Peripl. Pont. Eux. Ammian. Marcell. lib. xxii. Ptolem. Hœphestion apud Photium. Pausanias, lib. iii. Tertullian de Animâ, c. 46. Leon. Annotat. de Patriâ Homeri.

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NOTE 11. PAGE 187. CHAPTER XIV.

To these I may add Tenedos, a small but fertile island in the Egean Sea, distant about 12 miles from Sigæum, and 56 from Lesbos — sacred to Apollo, as ap-

pears from Horace, who intreats that Divinity, not only to inspire him, then about to celebrate Augustus in lyric verses, but to be with him entirely,

" Divinâ Tenedo veniens."

It was also celebrated for being the retreat, during the Trojan War, of the Greeks, who there concealed themselves so effectually, as to make the Trojans believe that they had returned home, without finishing the siege.

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NOTE 12. PAGE 192. CHAPTER XIV.

I enter most cordially into the miseries of being obliged to guess at the meaning of an author, from the obscurity of his expression. And I well remember the astonishment of a young classical friend, at his meeting with the expression of " Hercle" in the " Amphitryon" of Plautus. It is needless to point out the glaring absurdity.

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NOTE 13. PAGE 193. CHAPTER XIV.

Horace alludes to the " gementis littora Bosphori," — and the beautiful lines —

" Night fell; and dark and darker grew
That narrow sea, that narrow sky,
As o'er the glimmering waves we flew,
The sea-bird rustling, wailing by,
And now the grampus half descried,
Black and huge, above the tide,
The cliffs and promontories there,
Front to front, and broad and bare,
Each beyond each, with giant feet,
Advancing, as in haste to meet."

Might have been written by Rogers, on the banks of the Bosphorus, as truly as upon the savage shores of Lough Long.

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NOTE 14. PAGE 199. CHAPTER XV.

It would appear from a passage in one of Horace's Satires, that the ancient Roman Matrons were not at all more prudent than the Ottoman devotees. The

poet introduces an old lady promising Jupiter, that if her son should recover from his quartan, he should fast and stand naked in the Tiber. —

" Frigida si puerum quartana reliquerit illo
Manè die, quo tu indicis jejunia, nudus
In Tiberi stabit. *Hor. Sat.* 3. l. 2.

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NOTE 15. PAGE 203. CHAPTER XV.

The death of the Sultana Validè happened in October, 1805. She was then in her 73d year. She was a native of Georgia, and her parents were Christians. Selim was her only child. She had formerly been the slave of a Mussulman, named Velizade Effendi, and was brought up in the society of Murad Bey, the celebrated Mameluke Chief. When only nine years old, she was presented by Velizade Effendi, then Mufti, to the reigning Sultan Mustapha; and being in the very flower of her beauty, she became a great favourite of the Emperor, and the mother of a Prince. As the Sultanas always suckle their own children, their maternal affection is very strong, and the Validè was a woman both of great powers of mind, and an affectionate disposition. She evinced her gratitude to the Mufti, by promoting Veli, his son, to the highest honours of the empire. She detested the Russians, and, until the invasion of Egypt, had been attached to the French; but latterly she promoted the English interests in preference.

Yusouf Pacha was in his sixty-second year. He had been Grand Vizier, and had commanded the Turkish army in Egypt, against General Kleber. He had accidentally lost an eye, while amusing himself with one of his attendants at the game of Djeridd, or throwing the javelin. Yusouf sent him away from his person, but continued to promote his interests ever afterwards: — no small instance of generosity in a Turk. At the time of Selim's deposition, he was in a sort of banishment as Pacha of Erzerum in Asia. — See *Hobhouse's Travels in Albania;* and *Journal d'un Voyage dans la Turquie en Asie et Perse. — Paris,* 1809.

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NOTE 16. PAGE 215. CHAPTER XVI.

Dr. Puguet, one of the physicians of the French army, gives the following instances of pestilential contagion — " Eight Frenchmen at *Caipha* communicated the germ of this disease in succession to each other, by one pelisse; five or six at *Gaza,* in disputing for a cloth coat, the spoils of one of their comrades; four at *Jaffa,* from making use of some neck-handkerchiefs, that a dispenser of medicines of the third class, *who died,* had brought with him from Italy. These four heirs were attacked

at the same time with buboes, about the neck, and perished from the third to the sixth day." — See *Bancroft on Fever*, p. 583.

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NOTE 17. PAGE 218. CHAPTER XVI.

*Caviare* is made of the roe of sturgeon and tunny fish. A sturgeon furnishes from 10 to 30 pounds weight of Caviar, and a tunny fish 120 pounds. As five eggs of a tunny fish and seven of a sturgeon only weigh a grain, we may thence form a computation how many millions of eggs these fish contain. In 1793, Russia exported Caviar to the value of 188,000 roubles, of which the greatest part went to Italy. The inferior kind is called poutarge or pressed Caviare, and the best is called *Kneaded Caviar*, which is only composed of entire eggs.

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NOTE 18. PAGE 222. CHAPTER XVIII.

Turbith — turpethum repens — indicium foliis Althææ. C. B. P. A violent hydragogue, the root of an Indian plant, which brings on inflammation in the throat, stomach, and intestines. It is never used in English pharmacy. Scammony, however, is the juice of a similar plant.

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NOTE 19. PAGE 246. CHAPTER XX.

Faltaron con el tiempo riguroso
La torre á Faro, á Babylonia el muro,
A Grecia, aquel milagro, en marmol duro,
Del Jupiter Olympico famoso.
A Caria aquel sarcofago amoroso,
Ya Memphes del Egypto mal seguro,
Las Colunas que oy cubre olvido escuro
El templo á Ephesia, á Rhodas el Coloso. — *Lope de Vega.*

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NOTE 20. PAGE 251. CHAPTER XX.

One of the most beautiful sonnets penned by Lope de Vega, is upon this fable.

Pasando el mar el engañoso toro
Volviendo la cerviz, el pie besava,
De la lloroso ninfa, que mirava
Perdido de las ropas el decoro;

Entre las aguas y las hebras de oro,
Ondas el friesco viento levantava,
A quien con los suspiros ayudava,
Del mal guardado virginal tesoro
Cayeronsele á Europa de las faldas,
Las rosas, al dezirle el Toro amores
Y ella con el dolor de sus guirnaldas,
Dizen, que lleno el rostro de colores
En perlas convirtió sus esmeraldas,
Y dixo, ay triste yo, perdì las flores. — *Sonnet* 87.

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NOTE 21. PAGE 252. CHAPTER XX.

There is another similar incident in mythology, namely, that of Proserpine being carried off by Pluto, while culling flowers with her Nymphs on the plains of Enna. Ovid has celebrated this circumstance in some very beautiful verses.

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NOTE 22. PAGE 259. CHAPTER XX.

" 'Twas all prepared, and from the rock,
A goat, the patriarch of the flock,
Before the kindling pile was laid,
And pierced by Roderick's ready blade.
Patient the sickening victim eyed
The life-blood ebb in crimson tide
Down his clogged beard and shaggy limb,
Till darkness glazed his eye-balls dim.
The grisly priest, with murmuring prayer,
A slender crosslet formed with care,
A cubit's length in measure due;
The shaft and limbs were rods of yew,
Whose parents in Inch Cailliach wave
Their shadows o'er Clan Alpine's grave;
And answering Lomond's breezes deep
Soothe many a chieftain's endless sleep.
The cross thus formed, he held on high,
With wasted hand and haggard eye,

And strange and mingled feelings woke
While his anathema he spoke —
'Woe to the clansmen who shall view,
'This symbol of sepulchral yew,' &c. &c. &c.

The shout was hushed on lake and fell,
The monk resumed his muttered spell.
Dismal and low its accents came,
The while he scathed the cross with flame;
And the few words that reached the air,
Although the holiest name was there,
Had more of blasphemy than prayer."

*Scott's Lady of the Lake.*

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NOTE 23. PAGE 274. CHAPTER XX.

Sibbens, or Sivvens, was described first by Dr. Gilchrist, a physician of Dumfries, in 1771, in the third Volume of the Edinburgh Medical Essays, and subsequently by Dr. Freer and Dr. Adams. See Essay on Morbid Poisons. It seems to me to be the first form of Syphilis, and is probably coeval with the deluge. Whether the researches of Dr. Fleisch have ever been published by the Austrian Government, I know not; they would certainly be most valuable.

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NOTE 24. PAGE 280. CHAPTER XXII.

In the lettere Turche before quoted, is this passage relative to the state of Poland in 1776. "La Polonia, da che Poniatowschi è sul Trono, sembra Gerusalemme in disordine dopo l'omicidio di Christo. Versavia, che nel tempo d'Augusto III. era l'emporio della richezza, e del buon gusto; ora non è che *Asilo degli avanturieri di-gioco, delle donne di Teatro, dei Pittori d'oscenità, e degli usurai.* Il dennaro non circola, e la specie è cosi ràra, ch'i gran Signori del Regno vendono dei Feudi interi per un vilissimo prezzo. *L' educazione, che mancha ai Polacchi in generale è la causa della loro decadenza.* Hanno ultimamente poi trovato una maniera d'instruirsi senza rompersi la testa con i maestri dell'arti, che è il mezzo il più sicuro della loro rovina. Non contenti di perdere i giorni alla Corte, dove il *Lusso*, il *Gioco*, e la *Lussuria* regnano da tiranni, se ne vanno a Parigi dove trasportano i dennari contanti, e dove imparano a distruggere in un anno la grandezza, e beni che in un seculo acquistarono i loro antenati." — *Lettera* 31. p. 157.

The same writer, speaking of Naples says, — Vi regna communemente un appetito di lussuria per tutti i vicoli della città a segno che le Donne Vergini sono rare como un Ebreo che non eserciti l'usura. Null-ostante la populazione non corresponde alla prolificità del clima, per le superstizioni, e gliabusi della legge che osservano i Cittadini. Vi sono delle Bolteghe che hanno per frontispizio : — *Qui si castrano i Ragazzi a bon mercato ! !*

THE END.

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